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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—An Anarchist demonstration took place on the Place de l'Opéra, on Monday night, but was a complete failure. The crowds that assembled consisted chiefly of lookers-on. During the evening bodies of roughs marched up and down, being dispersed from time to time by the police, and later a few arrests were made. Some young men broke the glass in a gunmaker's shop in the Rue Lafayette, and seized a few guns and revolvers. Several were arrested, including the ringleader, a youth of eighteen. The windows of an optician's shop in the Boulevard Poissonière were also broken.

Mdme. de Corneillan, daughter of Dr. Epinasse, formerly a Senator, who, on the 12th ult., disappeared from her house at Réalmont, has been restored to her home, and relates the following story :—She was awoke by a noise in the next room, got up, and found two men ransacking a desk. They seized her, gagged and carried her off, stunning her when she resisted by a blow on the head. She next found herself in a closed carriage, where she remained for a fortnight travelling all day. Food was given her, and drink, in which, in the evening, a narcotic was placed. She made two attempts to escape, after the second of which she was strapped to the carriage. She succeeded in fraying the strap with a hairpin, and finally one evening, when one man only was on guard and left the carriage to see after his horses, broke the strap and made her escape, carrying with her a purse which was kept in the carriage. She hurried on nearly two days without stopping, and on the second entered a railway station (which she thinks to have been St. Raphael) and took a ticket to Marseilles. Arrived there she rebooked for Narbonne, but broke down and had to leave the train at Lézignan, where she was recognised by a former pupil of her son, and so restored to her friends. The intention of the men is supposed to have been to carry her into Italy and hold her to ransom.

Two curious incidents in connection with Monte Carlo are mentioned by the *Nice Journal*. The Crown Prince of Sweden, while on a visit to Nice, had the curiosity to see Monte Carlo. M. Borriglione, deputy, Mayor of Nice, and chief champion of the gaming-tables, made an advertisement of the visit in his newspaper. The Prince was annoyed, immediately left Nice for Marseilles, and is not expected to return. The King of Wurtemburg, though related by marriage to the Prince of Monaco, and though staying at Nice, has avoided giving occasion for a similar advertisement and flight. A French deputy, M. de Lacretelle (son of one literary man of some note and nephew of another), has not been equally wise. He has not only visited Monte Carlo, but he was there robbed of his portfolio containing the pass over all the French railways, for the supply of which, at a low price, the senators and deputies arranged a few years ago. Instead, moreover, of holding his tongue, he has made a complaint, and charitably suggests that the pickpocket must have been an Englishman or an American. The *Journal* remarks that these legislatorial passes were not designed for visits to Monte Carlo, and that a little delicacy would have taught M. de Lacretelle that such expeditions have nothing to do with public affairs.

A woman named Marie Pommier was convicted on Saturday at the Blois Assizes of defrauding and attempting to murder a rich and superstitious widow, Mdme. Duval. She accosted the latter when coming out of Blois Cathedral, induced her to confide to her her family quarrels, and professed to have supernatural powers for reconciling disputants and securing wealth. Mdme. Duval went home with the woman to Villejoint, spent the night with her, and gave her 400 fr., the two burning a taper in a church to the success of the affair. A few days later she advanced 4,500 fr. more, and later on 2,200 fr.; the woman promising that the treasure would emerge from the ground at a given date. When this had expired Mdme. Duval gave up her jewels, and was presented with what looked like a piece of dough, which she was to heat at night in a saucepan, leaning over the latter in bed till the charm worked. Mdme. Duval did all this; the result being an explosion which shattered the roof, door, and windows and set fire to the bed. She was extricated dreadfully burned and bruised. The witch was arrested ten days afterwards at Orleans. While in prison she tried to bribe two men about to be released to go and set fire to Mdme. Duval's house. She was proved to have bought sulphuric acid and potash of a druggist at Orleans. She pleaded an *alibi*, however, and insisted that an acquaintance and former fellow-prisoner had borrowed her clothes and had been mistaken for her. She was sentenced to twenty years' hard labour, with ten years' police surveillance.

CHINA.—On Monday Admiral Courbet and seven French men-of-war were at Matsou. A mutiny among the Algerian troops was reported, and also one on the *Bayard*, in consequence of which twelve men were shot. These statements are semi-officially denied at Paris. Admiral Courbet has sent home a despatch, dated Kelung the 3rd inst. :—

"On the night of the 31st ult. our new positions were attacked by a Chinese force, numbering between 1,000 and 2,000 men. The enemy was vigorously repulsed, leaving upwards of 200 dead on the field, including one European officer and several Mandarins. Our losses were one soldier killed and one wounded. The losses of the Chinese between the 25th ult. and the 1st inst. were 700 killed and wounded."

The French forces under General Brière de Lisle had on the 9th inst. a slight engagement with the Chinese, in which they lost two men killed and six wounded. The Chinese were compelled to fall back upon Thau Noi. The French continued to advance on the following day.

The French squadron lately at anchor near Gutzlaff Island has, a Shanghai telegram states, gone in search of the Chinese fleet, which is reported to be at anchor off Sheipoo.

ITALY.—In diplomatic circles it is stated that in consequence of the refusal of the Egyptian Government to sanction the cession of Massowah to Italy, an agreement has been concluded between England and Italy by which the latter Power will be admitted to participation in the establishment of regular government in the Soudan.

To a question on the state of affairs in the Soudan, put by Signor Crispi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs stated that no further news of Khartoum had been received. He could say nothing more than he had already said. Most of the papers, even of the Opposition, express approval of an expedition to Souakim in aid of the English. The telegraphic connection of Assab with the Suez and Aden cable of the Eastern Telegraph Company has been voted unanimously.

Michael Davitt is visiting Rome, with the object it is said of justifying to the Holy See the conduct of the Catholics belonging to the Irish National party. The Vatican being, however, unwilling to treat with Davitt, some influential personages are endeavouring to procure for him an audience of his Holiness.

Lately, says the *Times* correspondent, the Papal *Moniteur de Rome* has become the warm apologist of Mr. Parnell and his party. It approves his acts and speeches; it says that it would be a cruel injustice to confound the Fenianism of the miscreants who attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament and the Tower with the National Irish movement, or to render the appeals of the one party responsible for the abominable attempts of the other. Printing a few days ago portions of that speech of Mr. Parnell in which he said that it was not in the power of any man to arrest the march of a nation, the *Moniteur* remarks that it would be seen that Mr. Parnell was using every effort to keep the Irish movement on legal and constitutional grounds. On Wednesday, however, the *Moniteur* published the following paragraph :—

"Speaking of the recent explosions in London, the *Tablet* regrets that Mr. Parnell and the other chiefs of the Irish National movement have not publicly disavowed the dynamite party and the outrages committed in London. The silence of Mr. Parnell and his friends may, in fact, give rise to false interpretations, and we think that in circumstances so grave a categorical declaration not only from Mr. Parnell, but perhaps also from the Irish Catholics and their authorised leaders, would produce the best impression in England and elsewhere."

AMERICA.—O'Donovan Rossa's paper, the *United Irishman*, offers a reward of 10,000dols. for the body of the Prince of Wales either alive or dead. The announcement is followed by a letter purporting to come from Dublin, and signed "Shaun O'Neil," stating that it had been decreed to make the above offer.

O'Donovan Rossa is doing well. Mrs. Dudley has refused to accept a public subscription for her defence. Short, who attempted to murder Phelan, has been remanded and remains in gaol, being unable to raise the £600 bail which he was ordered to find, and the Court having declined to reduce the amount. In court Phelan was found to be carrying a large navy pistol in the sling supporting his left arm. It was taken from him. There is a rumour that an application will be made for the extradition of Short as an Invincible.

GERMANY.—Prince Bismarck has informed the Budget Committee of the Reichstag by letter that the treaties concluded by German firms in the German settlements in Africa, as well as the English documents concerning North Borneo, and the acts by which rights of supremacy were transferred or offered to the Emperor of Germany, will shortly be communicated to the Committee.

RUSSIA.—A *Times* correspondent writes from Moscow :—"On Thursday, Dec. 18, the Right Rev. Dr. J. H. Titcomb (late Bishop of Rangoon), English Bishop for Northern and Central Europe, confirmed in Moscow about forty candidates, the majority of whom were, as usual, young ladies. On the following Sunday the Bishop consecrated, under the name of the Church of St. Andrew, the newly-erected British chapel, of the opening of which I sent an account a few months since. In a powerful discourse, admirably calculated to impress the minds of such an audience, the Bishop declared the building for ever set apart for all the purposes of a church according to the beliefs of the Church of England, and so handed it over to the churchwardens, Messrs. Wincey and Gibson. It is hoped that now the English in Moscow possess a building worthy of the sacred purposes for which it was built, steps will be taken to remove a serious disability under which they labour—namely, that of not being able to have marriages among them legally celebrated otherwise than by the British Vice-Consul. It is a strange anomaly that the clergyman of the Church of England in St. Petersburg may legally perform the marriage rite where he will within that city, while the clergyman in Moscow cannot do so even in the church there. Hitherto occasional short Acts of Parliament (the last was in 1858) of a retrospective nature have been passed to legalise such marriages; but it is now felt that a large and important English community, such as that resident in and near Moscow, should be in a position more consonant with the religious opinions in which they have been educated."

It is announced from Warsaw that a police officer named Stcherba, who was sent to Skiernievice on special service while the three Emperors were staying there, has disappeared, and no trace of him can be found. It is feared that he has been the victim of a political assassination.

SWITZERLAND.—During the last week or two avalanches have been more frequent than is usual at this time of the year on the Swiss side of the Great St. Bernard Hospice. Travellers who have passed over Mont Jou (as the mountain is called in the neighbourhood) will remember the line of long posts that runs down the middle of the gorge leading towards Martigny, although everyone may not be aware that they mark the track taken in winter to avoid the avalanches which often at this season sweep over and obstruct the ordinary zigzag road. Nearly every morning a monk, accompanied by two or three servants and several mastiffs, goes out to look for footsore and possibly perishing wayfarers. It is literally a man-hunt, for the mastiffs "quest" like any other hounds, and can scent bodies at a considerable depth under the snow. About two days ago Canon Luisier and two servants, who went out on an expedition of this sort, narrowly escaped exchanging the *rôle* of saviours for that of victims. While still close to the Hospice the Canon heard a sound he knew only too well—the thunder of a coming avalanche. He bounded backward at the *pas gymnastique*, shouting at the same time to the two servants to do likewise. The avalanche passed without touching him, but when he looked round his companions had disappeared. The next moment, however, one of them struggled out of a heap of snow. But where was the other? He could neither be seen nor heard, and the survivors felt certain that he was irrevocably lost. After a second and longer look, however, the Canon fancied he could see a black mark on the snow some distance away. They ran to the spot at once, and, surely enough, the black mark was the lost man's boot. The rest of him was buried under the avalanche. An attempt to drag him out by the leg failed—the weight of snow was too great. There was nothing for it but to dig their companion out with their hands. It was done only just in time. He was quite insensible and recovered with great difficulty. A few seconds more and he would have perished. The man's name is Collombier, and this makes the third time he has been overtaken by an avalanche and rescued, as by a miracle, from the jaws of death.

The Italian and Swiss papers relate some striking incidents to which the recent avalanches have given rise. A man of the name of Rapelli, an ex-marshal of carabineers, lived with his wife and his children in the village of Groscavello. The wife was an invalid, and while her husband and their little girl were in her bed-room two Sundays ago an avalanche fell on the village and crushed the house. Rapelli was killed, and the child, one of whose feet was caught between two joists, was thrown head downwards, without any possibility of extricating herself. The mother, though saved from destruction by a beam, had one of her arms so tightly wedged under it that she could only just touch the child's head with the tip of her fingers. After hanging in the position described for thirty hours, continually crying to her mother for help, she died in convulsions. Mdme. Rapelli would probably have perished of hunger and cold if a hen had not come within reach of her free hand. She seized and strangled it, plucked it with her teeth, and placed the feathers under her neck, which was in contact with the snow. Then she devoured the fowl just as it was. After remaining thus imprisoned nearly sixty hours she was got out by a rescue party and carried into a stable hard by, where a short time ago she still lay in a condition bordering on idiotcy. The cause of these disasters (a correspondent points out) is well known. There is nothing like forests for stopping or breaking the force of an avalanche, and the slopes of the Italian sides of the Alps have been almost completely denuded of their timber. The Swiss owe their comparative immunity from the catastrophes which have wrought so much havoc among their neighbours to the care they bestow on the preservation of their mountain woods.

"For the first time in its history," writes a correspondent, "the Federal Palace at Berne is placed under the guard of armed men. All the doors which give access to the building from the principal façade, as well as those opening on the terrace, have been closed, and two sentinels march to and fro in the vestibule, or, standing at the only door left open, scrutinise closely everybody except persons well known to them who enters. Although the members of the Government and the officers of the palace are very reticent on the subject, and nothing certain is known, there is no question that the Federal Council have received information which causes them to apprehend an attempt similar to those which so nearly wrecked the House of Commons and Westminster Hall. Hitherto Switzerland has enjoyed an absolute immunity from dynamite outrages. But it is impossible to know, as such, every red revolutionist who comes to Switzerland, and it is believed that some of them, vexed by the expulsion of some of their number and the prosecution of others, have resolved to take summary vengeance on the Government, either by murdering public men or blowing up public buildings. To the threats they have received the Federal Council will, it is said, respond by decreeing further expulsions. Fifteen well-known foreign Anarchists, now in eastern Switzerland, are to be sent further across the frontier, and a like fate will probably befall some of their *confrères* at present sojourning in Geneva and Lausanne. As a Swiss paper suggests, these gentlemen are at least as dangerous as Miss Booth and the members of the Salvation Army, whose presence in the country was deemed incompatible with the preservation of order."

SPAIN.—Recently the Minister for Foreign Affairs laid before Congress a Bill authorising the Government, first, to grant to England the most favoured nation treatment, in return for an alcoholic scale raised to thirty degrees in accordance with the arrangement of December 21, 1884; and, secondly, to make a subsidiary agreement in virtue of which Her Majesty's Government should further modify the scale in compensation for concessions to be made in the duties on certain articles of British commerce. On Thursday the Senators and Deputies from Catalonia held a meeting, and passed resolutions inviting all the manufacturing interests to unite against the proposed treaty.

Over-building has brought on serious distress, chiefly in Madrid and the manufacturing towns of Catalonia. In Madrid alone there are 7,000 dwellings to let. On Saturday the men out of employ made a demonstration demanding labour or bread. There was a second demonstration on Monday which was dispersed by the police, some forty men being arrested. Steps are to be taken by the municipal authorities to provide employment and relief.

AUSTRALIA.—In the remote township of Tumberumba, Victoria, the Presbyterians, having no place of worship of their own, applied for permission to use the church. The application was referred to the Bishop of Goulburn, who declined to grant it, although some concession of the kind was alleged to obtain in the diocese of Melbourne. The Bishop in his reply explained "the state of the case in Victoria" by quoting the opinion of certain eminent barristers in England that persons not Episcopally ordained have no right to preach in our churches, an opinion that had drawn from the Bishop of Melbourne a notice that he could not allow "any minister or member of any denomination other than the Church of England to preach in any church or chapel of the said Church of England."

Telegraphing *vid* Madeira, on Sunday, the correspondent of the *Western Morning News* on the Cameroon River states that the Germans have formally annexed as a German colony the whole of the Cameroon range down to the confines of English territory at Ambas Bay, so that the British settlements and the district over which Germany now claims sovereign rights are contiguous.

The General Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society writes to the daily papers, enclosing copies of letters from two of the missionaries on that river, giving an account of the recent fighting. The Rev. S. Silvey, missionary at Bell Town, writes :—

"Many of the chiefs are annoyed and vexed with King Bell for signing the treaty with the Germans. The feeling against King Bell grew so strong that he and all his people were obliged to leave Bell Town. About December 14 King Bell's people caught a Hickory Town man and put him to death. This so angered the Hickory Town people that on December 16 they came and burned down King Bell's house and town. It had been deserted some weeks previously. On December 19 two German men-of-war arrived at the mouth of the river. On the 20th, about ten a.m., I saw two small steamers, the *Fan* and the *Dualla*, towing up about a dozen boats filled with German soldiers. Without the slightest warning or notice they steamed straight to Hickory Town, firing upon and destroying two small fishing canoes on the way. The Hickory people saw the Germans coming up the river. The men took their guns and ran into the bush behind the town. The women and the children belonging to the Mission-house took refuge in our Mission-house. As soon as I saw what was going on, I went immediately in the Mission-boat up to Hickory, and stayed there all day. Soon after the German soldiers landed King Bell's people arrived and seized the goods, furniture, and everything valuable, and even carried off the goats and fowls; then set fire to the whole of the town. When I arrived at Hickory Town I told the Mission people to bring everything they could carry into the Mission-house and sit down quietly. I then shut the doors, and with the aid of a German soldier (granted me by the commander) I managed to keep the Bell Town people outside the Mission-house. I am glad to say we managed to save the property and lives of about fifty of our Mission people. When they began to burn the houses round the Mission buildings I went to the German commander and King Bell, and pointed out that if these houses were fired nothing could save the Mission property. They both promised me most deliberately that the houses should not be fired, but in a few minutes they had them set on fire. Mr. Fuller's beautiful little chapel soon took fire, then the school-house, then the kitchen and outbuildings of the Mission. The only thing that saved to some extent the Mission-house was its iron roof. It did take fire in two places, but we managed to put it out. There is now nothing but the bare brick walls of the chapel and school standing, and no house but the Mission-house for miles on either side. After the German soldiers left I got the loan of a large surf-boat, and brought about fifty Hickory Mission people, women and children, with their goods, to Bethel station. We lodged them in the Mission-house and schoolroom that night. December 21st, being Sunday, we held a prayer-meeting instead of our usual morning service, and held Sunday-school as usual. About one o'clock the Germans surrounded the Bethel Mission buildings with about 200 soldiers. They roughly searched the whole of the Mission premises, and threatened us with loaded pistols and rifles at our heads. They only found one man, although we had nearly 100 women and children in the houses. This man, 'Robert,' a member of the Hickory Church, was not one of the men brought from Hickory. He came to Acqua Town on business long before the fight commenced on Saturday. The Germans took him prisoner, but I do not think anything can possibly be proved against him. In the afternoon they sent us a proclamation, which said that if we aided directly or indirectly the rebellious natives they would consider us enemies, and banish us immediately from Cameroons. Not only is Mortonville Mission station destroyed, but there is not a single house standing for miles on that side of the river."

Mr. Lewis gives a similar account of the burning of Joss Town, from which the Germans were at first beaten back, and had to obtain reinforcements. After an hour and a half's fighting, Joss Town was stormed, and burnt to the ground. Before the attack the Joss Town chief, River, went to the German factory of Messrs. Wörmann and Co., about half a mile distant from their own town, and on the beach, and there seized the sub-agent, Mr. Pontanies, threatening that if any of the Joss Town people were killed, they would immediately retaliate by taking his life. In the encounter one of the Joss Town chiefs named Calabar Joss was killed, and immediately on his death the natives brought out Wörmann's sub-agent, and at once carried out their threat, cutting off his head, putting it on a pole, and carrying it through the town. They then made for the bush, and the Germans, after setting fire to the town, retired for the day. In the evening the German authorities searched all the shipping in the river, ostensibly for the purpose of capturing the two chiefs, Lock Preese and Green Joss, but these chiefs were not to be found, and up to the 25th of December they had not been captured. In searching the hulks of the English merchants, the German officers were accompanied by the clerks and agents of the German trading firms established in the Cameroons.

BURMAH.—The *Temps* of Thursday says that the treaty recently concluded between France and Burmah is a treaty of commerce, and provides for the settlement of French subjects in Burmah. It will consequently be submitted to Parliament for approval.

A committee representing the citizens of Rangoon has addressed a letter to the Chief Commissioner, saying trade is paralysed, and there is no hope of its revival until order has been restored in Upper Burmah. The committee respectfully prays that the Government will take action to save the trade of the province from complete ruin, and Upper Burmah from becoming the prey of brigands or the appanage of some foreign Power. The Chief Commissioner replied that the memorial, like their former one, would be forwarded to the Viceroy.

AUSTRIA.—Daniel Miller, *alias* John Coleman, *alias* O'Donovan, was tried at Vienna on Thursday, for passing forged Bank of England notes last August, under circumstances which were reported at the time. It transpired in the course of the proceedings that he had already undergone ten years' imprisonment for a similar offence in the United States. He was sentenced to eight years' penal servitude.

EGYPT.—Two native newspapers have been suppressed for having referred to Hassan Fehmi Pasha's negotiations in London in favour of Prince Halim.

Last week three slaves of Princess Mansour, sister of the Khedive, sought refuge at Sir E. Baring's residence, complaining of ill-treatment. After having been provided with liberation papers, they were conveyed to the English Homes for Freed Slaves, whence vain efforts have been made by the Princess to recover them.

The Italian flag was on the 5th inst. hoisted at Massowah and a fort four miles distant named Muccoullow. The Egyptian authorities handed in a protest reserving the rights of the Sultan. These were recognised by the Turkish flag being left flying alongside that of Italy. A battalion of Bersaglieri and a battery of artillery were landed and took possession of the town. The Italians will in no way interfere with the civil authorities, but will occupy the forts conjointly with the small Egyptian garrison. It is reported at Cairo that these troops are about to march to the relief of Kassala and Senhit. By the end of the month the total strength of the Italian force on the Red Sea will consist of two ironclad frigates, two corvettes, two cruisers, two gunboats, and three despatch boats, carrying altogether 3,800 men and 72 guns.

INDIA.—The Select Committee on the Bengal Tenancy Bill has now finished its sittings, and its report and the amended Bill will be presented before the end of the month. It is hoped that the measure will be passed through the remaining stages by March 28, the date fixed for the Viceroy's departure from Calcutta.

A number of the leading natives of Bombay have held a meeting for the purpose of establishing a political association, Sir Jamesetjee Jeejeebhoy presiding. Several speakers explained its object to be the advocacy of native rights coupled with unimpeachable loyalty to the Throne. A committee was formed to carry out the the objects of the meeting.

We are requested to state that it has been announced to Her Majesty's Government, by the Government of the French Republic, that it is their intention to exercise, during the continuance of the present hostilities between France and China, the rights of belligerents which are recognised by the law of nations, including the right to search neutral vessels on the high seas for contraband of war.

The *British Australasian* has received the following telegram from its correspondent at Wellington, New Zealand:—"Wellington, Feb. 11. There is intense excitement throughout New Zealand upon the statement that Germany has annexed Samoa. The English and American Consuls have formally protested, and the situation is regarded as very serious." The editor of the *Australasian* appends the following note:—"We give this telegram as it reached us; we cannot believe that Germany would break faith with us in this manner."

Some details are to hand respecting the murder, on the 4th inst., of Monsignor Narcissus Pallares, Vicar-General of the Roman Catholic diocese of Gibraltar. The Monsignor, who was in his seventy-third year, was sitting in his office where the archives are kept when a man named Lewis Caltaino rushed in, and with a butcher's knife nearly severed his head from his body. The murderer took refuge in a house opposite the church, and it was an hour before he was arrested. Caltaino has been some time undoubtedly insane. He has been nominating one woman after another for his wife, and finally asked the Vicar-General to marry him to his own sister. There was no other motive for the murder than refusal to comply with this demand.

The proceedings in connection with the *Alabama* award are now drawing to a close in London. After payment of "direct" claims, a sum of 9,000,000 dols. remained undistributed. Congress thereupon created a tribunal for compensating those persons (American or British subjects) who, as underwriters or even as payers of "war premiums," had suffered by reason of the existence of the *Alabama* and sister cruisers. The time for filing claims expired in January, 1883; and the evidence in support of the English claims is now being taken, *viva voce*, before the American Commissioner, Mr. Van Wagner, in the Temple. The United States Government is represented by an assistant counsel, Mr. Moffatt; and Mr. Reymert, of the American Bar, is conducting the cases on behalf of a large body of the English claimants.

The *Berliner Philologische Wochenschrift* publishes a communication from Athens which reports a discovery just made at the Acropolis, which is valuable for the history of Greek art. In the course of the excavations now being carried on around the Acropolis the foundations of the Propylæa have been laid bare. Among them have been discovered a number of sheds or verandahs built of tufa, which were evidently existing on the spot when the Propylæa was being erected, about 430 B.C., and were built into the foundations. Some of them are in a state of perfect preservation and retain still quite fresh the paintings with which they were originally decorated. The colours employed were blue, red, and yellow.

The Chester Triennial Musical Festival is announced for July 22, 23, and 24. The works to be performed in the Cathedral are as follows:—July 22, *The Redemption* (Gounod); July 23, Motet, "Blessing, Glory," &c. (Bach), concerto for organ and orchestra (Handel), *Daniel* (Dr. Joseph C. Bridge), and *Stabat Mater* (Rossini); July 24, *St. Paul* (Mendelssohn), and *Messiah* (Handel). On the evening of July 22 there will be a miscellaneous concert in the Music-hall, and on the evening of the 23rd Berlioz's *Faust*. The vocalists engaged are Miss Anna Williams, Miss Mary Davies, Madame Patey, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Joseph Maas, Mr. Brereton, and Mr. Santley.

WHY BURN GAS?—Chappuis' reflectors diffuse daylight.—Factory, 69, Fleet-street.

THE NILE EXPEDITION.

Notwithstanding that the fall of Khartoum took place on the 26th ult., as reported in our last issue, hopes were for several days entertained that its brave defender, General Gordon, might have sought safety in some building in the place, or have become a prisoner in the hands of the Mahdi. These hopes were, however, dispelled on Wednesday, when graphic descriptions of the fighting were published, the correspondents definitely stating that General Gordon was killed. The *Daily News* correspondent at Gakdul, telegraphing on February 8, says:—

"Natives who escaped describe Gordon as having been killed in coming out of his house to rally his faithful troops, who were taken by surprise. They were cut down to a man. For hours the best part of the town was the scene of a merciless massacre. Even the women and children were not spared. All the notables, except the treacherous Pashas and their followers, were put to the sword. All this seemed too probable from the first, when Sir Charles Wilson with his steamers went up as far as Tuti, and saw beyond the trees that the island and the streets of Khartoum and plains outside were crowded with dervishes with flaunting banners, and no friendly sign was given from the palace or Egyptian ensign was flying anywhere. Had Gordon been holding the fortified monastery, as some averred, he would certainly have fired some shots as a signal to the steamers. Gordon's other boats and nuggars were seen lying beside the banks on the Omdurman side, which was occupied by rebels. Kashim Elmoos, Gordon's most trusted officer, was true to the last, but doubts were entertained of the fidelity of Abdul Ahmed, the second in command, and he justified these by deserting."

The dismal story is related with graphic force in the following extract from the telegram of the *Daily Chronicle* correspondent with Stewart's column at Abu Kru, near Metammeh. The despatch is dated the 4th inst.:—

"It appears on the best authority available that the fall of the ill-fated city was due entirely to the treachery of Faragh Pasha, who commanded General Gordon's Soudanee troops. This miscreant betrayed the city and its glorious defender on the morning of January 26. It is alleged that General Gordon had always mistrusted this man, treason having been proved against him on a former occasion, in respect of which he was condemned to death. Gordon either doubting the effect which his execution would have upon the fidelity of the Soudanee troops, with whom he possessed great influence, or yielding in that spirit of generosity which so distinguished him to Faragh's reiterated prayers for pardon and professions of devotion, forgave him. For many months Faragh's conduct was above suspicion; but it is thought that fearing, on the arrival of the English, punishment would overtake him, he entered into negotiations with the Mahdi, with the disastrous result which all the world must deplore. Be that as it may, one fact seems beyond doubt, that on January 26 he opened the gates of the city to the Mahdi's troops.

"I feel it my painful duty to record that, framing our belief on the most reliable testimony obtainable, we here have but little hope that the heroic General has survived the loss of the city, which he for so many months had defended with such marvellous resolution. Evidence of the most circumstantial character takes the form of a positive statement, to the effect that upon hearing the unwonted commotion caused by the irruption of the False Prophet's troops into the streets of Khartoum, Gordon, rushing out of the palace to ascertain the cause, was slain upon the threshold. It appears further that, despite Gordon's cheering letter of the 29th of December, announcing that Khartoum was 'all right,' the garrison had for a long time previous been suffering intense privation. This fact doubtless contributed to render the work of treason the more easy of accomplishment.

"The Mahdi's troops—the wild hunters of Kordofan and those Cossacks of the Soudan the Baggara horsemen—rushed in swelling hordes into the devoted city, and the word was given to slay. A massacre of indescribable ferocity followed. Those who had remained faithful to the gallant Englishman who had stood between them and the knife so long, regardless of age or sex, were ruthlessly butchered. The women, for the most part, were murdered in cold blood, and little children were spitted on the Arab spears in pure wantonness. All those relatives of the faithful five hundred under Nusri Pasha, who met and assisted us at Gubat, shared the general fate.

"From the accounts of an eye-witness who boarded Sir Charles Wilson's steamer on the return voyage from Khartoum, it would appear that 'for an entire day the streets of the city ran with blood;' but allowing for Oriental exaggeration, there can be no doubt that the scene of carnage which followed the entry of the Mahdi's fierce warriors into the city which had defied them so long was one of unparalleled horror since the days of Tamerlane. The bulk of the troops, however, willingly joined the Mahdi, and his chiefs speedily organised a complete system of defence for the city, throwing up outlying redoubts arranged on a sound military principle, and commanding the approaches of the city from all points. Into these outlying fortifications immense numbers of marksmen have been thrown, together with vast quantities of arms, cartridges, and shells.

"If all this be as described, and the Mahdi be well supplied with provisions, the taking of Khartoum will be a most wearisome and arduous task, and will have to be conducted on those principles which govern the conduct of sieges in European warfare.

"While Sir Charles Wilson was on the island on which he found refuge after the loss of the steamer, he was visited by a friendly sheikh wearing the Mahdi's uniform, and who was in a position to give them the latest news from Khartoum. The news I have embodied above, the purport of it being to remove any doubt, if such existed, as to the fate of Gordon. This sheikh is also responsible for the statement that, had Wilson's force arrived two days earlier Gordon, would undoubtedly have been saved. The officers and men of Nusri Pasha's force were in a terrible state on hearing of the massacre of their families. When the news was broken to them they gave way to the wildest paroxysms of grief and rage, and at the present moment must be described as perfectly demoralised by the fearful blow which has fallen upon them."

The special correspondent of the *Daily News* at Gakdul, telegraphing on the 8th, confirms in the main the statements made above. He says:—

"Unfortunately no doubt can now exist that General Gordon was among those massacred when Khartoum fell into the hands of the rebels. Natives who escaped describe him as having been killed in coming out of his house to rally his faithful troops, who were taken by surprise. They were cut down to a man. For hours the best part of the town was the scene of a merciless massacre. Even the women and children were not spared. All the notables, except the treacherous Pashas and their followers, were put to the sword. Gordon's steamers and nuggars were seen lying beside the banks on the Omdurman side, which was occupied by rebels."

According to the *Daily Telegraph* correspondent, General Gordon was killed while leaving his room in Government House on the morning of the 27th of January. The rebels were admitted by the treachery of Faragh Pasha into Khartoum on the night of the 26th of January.

It is generally believed that Khartoum fell through treachery, the officer in charge of the ramparts opening the gates to the rebels on the night of January 26. The officer in charge on that occasion is believed to have been Faragh Pasha. That General Gordon had suspected treachery had previously been hinted by the *Pall Mall Gazette*. According to that journal:—

"On the 14th of December a letter was received by one of his friends in Cairo from General Gordon, saying:—'Farewell. You will never hear from me again. I fear that there will be treachery in the garrison, and all will be over by Christmas.' It was this melancholy warning that led Lord Wolseley to order the dash across the desert. Of the origin of his foreboding nothing is known. Sir H. Gordon appears to believe that the 500 men who joined the garrison of Khartoum from the forces of the Mahdi in September may have been the traitors. Of this there is no evidence. One Faragh Pasha was the man who opened the gates, and he probably was with Gordon from the first."

From the accounts of the correspondents it appears that the two steamers left Metammeh at 8 a.m. on the 24th ult., the *Bordein*, with Sir C. Wilson and Major Gascoigne, with a detachment of the Sussex Regiment, and some black troops; the *Tall-Howeiya*, with Captain Trafford and a detachment of the Sussex Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart Wortley, and Abdul Hamed Bey. At 11 a.m. the steamers stopped at Gandatu, and Sheikh Hussein sent a messenger on board to say that the Shagiyeh tribe would join the English when our power was established. The steamers stopped for the night at Bewena. At Wad El Habesh next morning the *Bordein* ran on a rock. She was got off at 3 p.m., but grounded again and delayed the ascent all day. When the Shagiyeh came on board they said that Gordon had been fighting hard for fifteen days, and that the English were greatly feared. On the 27th the steamers passed the Sixth Cataract, where the river runs through a narrow gorge. Here a native reported that Khartoum had fallen and that General Gordon was dead. Occasional shots were fired all day from the shores. At noon next day Khartoum was visible through a telescope. No flag could be seen flying over Government House. Shortly after four o'clock four guns at Halfiyeh opened fire on the steamers, and a heavy musketry fire began. The battery at Tuti next opened fire, being followed by the Krupps from the city and the batteries at Omdurman. There was also a hailstorm of rifle fire, from, it was supposed, about 7,000 men. This latter was comparatively harmless, owing to the armour with which the vessels were protected; but the artillery fire was well directed and many shells burst on board. The loss was one man killed and five wounded. The correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* says:—

"Again and again the steamer was hit; sometimes the shells burst right over her, others fell on board, but the vessel miraculously escaped. The rifle fire, too, was like one continuous hail upon the armoured bulwarks, sometimes from one side of the river and sometimes from the other, until Khartoum was reached, when the din became terrific, a rifle fire being directed against us from every nook, cranny, and loophole within range. The situation was becoming hazardous in the extreme, but it was only when it became apparent that no good could result from a further prosecution of the enterprise, that even if Gordon were still alive nothing could be done to help him—then and only then was the order given to retire. The number of the rebels armed with Remingtons along the Nile, near Khartoum, are variously estimated from 6,000 to 9,000 men."

The officers who accompanied Sir C. Wilson to Khartoum all say that there was no sign of resistance to the Mahdi in any part of Khartoum. The streets were seen to be crowded with men, and there were numbers of the Mahdi's banners. At 200 yards from Khartoum, it being beyond doubt that the enemy were in possession of the city, Sir C. Wilson gave the order to return. At an island twelve miles south of Jebel Rojan the steamers stopped for the night. A number of refugees from Khartoum, making their way northward along the banks, asked Sir C. Wilson to take them on board, which he did. It would seem that it was from these men that the treachery of Faragh Pasha was learnt. Another version is that the place was betrayed by the commander of the three steamers left at Khartoum. Above the cataract, too, the *Tall-Howeiya* was wrecked, all on board being saved. This appears to have been on the 29th. Before the *Bordein* started again a dervish arrived with a letter from the Mahdi, inviting the officers to surrender and become Mohammedans, or he would wipe them off the face of the earth. The letter also stated that Khartoum had fallen, and that General Gordon was at Omdurman, with the Mahdi, having adopted his uniform. A somewhat different version of the letter is given by the correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, who says it is stated—

"That General Gordon had voluntarily surrendered the city, and that furthermore he had embraced the Mahdi's cause and the Moslem faith. The Mahdi advised the English to do the same, asserting that he had no quarrel with them, but desired peace with all the world. No threats of any kind were added."

The Shagiyeh men now came and said that they should join the Mahdi. On the 30th the steamer passed the gorge and anchored for the night below Shabluka. Two Shagiyeh tribesmen came on board, confirming the news about Khartoum, adding that General Gordon, with Consul Nicola, fifty Greeks, and some soldiers, had shut themselves up in the (Greek) Catholic Church with a supply of ammunition and food. These men said that the Mahdi's Emirs had refused to lead their men against the English, unless he went too. At Khartoum, Metammeh was reported to have fallen, and the English to be in vast numbers. When almost clear of the cataract the *Bordein* struck on a rock. Everything was saved, and Sir C. Wilson and the party bivouacked on the island. Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart Wortley, with four English soldiers and eight natives, in a small rowing boat, floated down the river past the enemy's works. A few volleys were fired, but the party reached Gubat at 3 a.m. on the 31st ult. A steamer, under the command of Lord C. Beresford, went to bring down Sir C. Wilson's party from the island. They numbered, including Khartoum refugees, more than 200. The stranding of the steamers, which had at first been attributed to treachery, appears to have simply been due to the low state of the Nile, which had been falling nearly a foot daily, and the steamer running in the dusk.

The *Daily Chronicle* correspondent, writing from Abu Kru, near Metammeh, on the 4th inst., supplies an interesting detailed account of the rescue of Sir Charles Wilson's party, and the gallant manner in which it was effected, under circumstances of the gravest peril:—"Lord Charles Beresford left Gubat on the evening of the 1st of February. The night passed without incident. On the morning of the 2nd three Sakeeyahs were wounded; but the enemy made no display in force. At daybreak on the 3rd large bodies of hostile Arabs were descried on the west bank, while a little further up the river a small fort became visible. At this time the steamer was within three miles of the small island upon which Sir Charles Wilson and his comrades were anxiously awaiting the rescuing party. Notwithstanding the impending danger, Lord Charles Beresford determined to persevere in his course, and boldly putting on steam, ran the gauntlet of the fort. Before the vessel could clear, however, a murderous fire from heavy guns, which were admirably served by the rebel artillerymen, was opened upon it, and was accompanied by a perfect hailstorm of well-directed Remington bullets. This terrific fire from the Remingtons immediately took effect. Lieutenant E. Van Koughnet, of the Royal Navy, was wounded in the thigh, and Petty Officer Edwin Curnow was killed. Almost at the same moment that these casualties occurred a couple of Krupps were unmasked in the fort, and brought to bear with more than ordinary accuracy upon the small craft."

To this redoubled fusillade the guns of the steamer replied, while the picked shots who were on board covered the hostile gunners.

"So well was discipline maintained, and so firm were our brave fellows, that their guns produced almost instantaneous effect, and the fire being well sustained the steamer was able to make some progress; and a few minutes later a cheer from the crew announced the fact that Sir C. Wilson and his party had been sighted. The exclamation had scarcely left their lips when a well-directed round shot from the battery crashed through the vessel's side. A loud explosion followed, and for a few minutes all was confusion on board; dense volumes of steam burst from the hold, and the cry went up that the vessel was sinking. Even at this most terrible moment the discipline which has made the name of English seamen and soldiers famous all the world over was not found wanting. Bursting through the clouds of steam, the officers penetrated the engine-room, and an examination made under the most trying circumstances showed that the missile from the battery had torn through the boiler. Two English stokers and several natives were severely injured by the explosion. In the meanwhile the vessel slowly drifted on to a sandbank 600 yards from the fort. Here Lord Charles Beresford decided to anchor while Chief Engineer Benbow repaired the boiler. On deck the guns were briskly served, and a well-directed and sustained fire was poured into the battery, and after a while the hostile fire, which had been growing gradually fitful and wild, totally ceased. In the enine-room the work of reparation was carried on with unflagging vigour; but despite every effort upwards of three hours elapsed before the damaged boiler was repaired. In the meanwhile the enemy were not idle in repairing the damage which our men had inflicted on their works, and almost before our repairs were completed their batteries reopened fire. Welber and Keppel, who, in common with all their comrades, had behaved throughout in the most gallant fashion, with two splendidly directed shots again silenced the enemy's fort."

Sir Charles Wilson, who had witnessed the early progress of this unequal contest, with feelings which can be better imagined than described, naturally judging, from the evident fact that the vessel had dropped her anchor, that she had sustained some grave injury, with that boldness and resolution which characterised his conduct at the battle outside Gubat, immediately decided to take an active part in the combat, and at all risk extend a hand to the relieving expedition.

"Hastily marshalling his small force, he succeeded, after a desperate effort, in effecting a landing, with his four guns, from the island on to the east bank of the river. Marching down the stream in the face of the enemy's battery, he brought his guns into position, and opened fire upon it. So well were his guns served, and so valuable was his intervention, that in a comparatively short space of time the enemy's battery was put to silence for the third time. Having effected this result, Sir Charles Wilson abandoned the position he had taken up, and, marching some distance further in the direction of Lord Charles Beresford, bivouacked for the night. Those on board the steamer passed the night in deep silence, being quite undisturbed by the enemy on the opposite bank. The boiler having been refilled, a successful effort was made to get up steam, and at dawn on the morning of the 4th inst. the steamer slipped silently past the fort. This movement was very quickly discovered, and heavy volleys, both from cannon and musketry, were sent after the boat. The English fire, however, was reserved for 200 yards, when the Gardner guns replied with effect. Still the Arabs stood to their guns, but

the steamer soon escaped beyond their range, and shortly afterwards dropped anchor. When passing close to the fort, the nuggar which was being towed in the wake of the steamer stranded, but was got off by Keppel. While executing this bold exploit a ricochet bullet from the fort struck him, but, I am happy to say, without inflicting any injury to speak of. It was, however, a providential escape. Lord Charles Beresford soon afterwards embarked Sir Charles Wilson and his party. I need hardly say that the greetings between the two commanders and their respective comrades were of the heartiest character. No further incident disturbed the progress of the rescuers and rescued, who arrived at Abu Kru at sundown, their arrival being hailed with frenzied delight on the part of those in camp."

From a further interview with Lord Charles Beresford, the correspondent learned that the fire directed on the steamer from the battery was of the heaviest possible character.

"For hours a leaden storm was poured upon the ship. It was utterly unlike anything those on board had ever experienced. Our fire, too, was most exceptional, as is evidenced by the enormous quantity of ammunition expended. Our total loss was one killed and nine wounded; while of General Gordon's auxiliary force, who originally manned the steamers, two were killed and twenty wounded. Seeing the unequal nature of the contest, it is certain that the vessel must have been lost but for the machine-guns which, on this as on so many former occasions, proved simply invaluable; as for upwards of twenty-four hours the vessel, which, as I have already stated, is of the poorest possible construction, lay exposed to the murderous fire from the enemy's battery. It is generally felt that the combined dash and boldness which characterised Beresford's performance of his most difficult and dangerous task has added immensely to his already high reputation."

Meanwhile, time had passed quietly at Gubat. The *Daily Telegraph* correspondent says:—

"We have been on three-quarter rations, amply supplemented by green beans or *dhura*, whilst the camels have had plenty of forage. One of our steamers, which belonged to Gordon, has been employed foraging for cattle with some success, and we have had fresh meat rations. Occasionally the steamer has thrown shells into Shendy and Metammeh. The other small steamer has been employed as a ferry to the island opposite our camp, towing boats loaded with forage, which the Egyptians are cutting down. We are clearing our front. The detached work at the village and the main earthworks by the river-side have been greatly strengthened."

Money is paid for the supplies where the owners appear. Only a part of a small tribe, four miles to the south on the east bank of the river, profess friendship and sell cattle to the British. Even they make a pretence of firing upon our steamers when leaving them, to avoid the enmity of their neighbours. The effect produced by the news of the fall of Khartoum is said to have been indescribable:—

"Among the men there is a certain eagerness for the presence of Lord Wolseley at the front. There is a little uncertainty here now, and the men by intuition seem to know it. Sir H. Stewart is ill beyond the power of acting, Sir C. Wilson is absent, and now Colonel Boscawen is on the sick-list. If our camp here is to be held, it is necessary that a fort should be thrown up on the island, which lies just three furlongs from the bank, and a small garrison of British troops placed there. There is little doubt but that the camp itself can be held by our men against the attacks with which the Mahdi threatens to annihilate us. The guns which have just come up have been placed in position."

These latter consist of nine guns of the Royal Artillery, and the remainder of the Naval Brigade, sixty sailors with a Gardner. Colonel Wilson, of the Scots Guards, has succeeded to the executive command.

Before the news of the fall of Khartoum arrived at Gubat the following proclamation by Lord Wolseley was issued to the tribes:—

"The English Government has sent me with an army to restore peace, and not to collect taxes or injure any one. I will pay you for all produce, and I guarantee to execute General Gordon's promises. Only those deserving of punishment at our hands will receive it. We call upon you to submit, and not to listen to evil advisers. Come into my camp and see my officers. No one shall harm you either coming from or returning to Metammeh."

On the 30th of January, when a convoy from Gakdul, under Colonel Talbot, was three miles distant from that place, it was met by a force of 1,000 of the enemy, composed of cavalry and infantry. Colonel Talbot at once ordered Major Hunter, R.A., to shell them, which was done most satisfactorily, the enemy being scattered in every direction, and compelled to retreat. The convoy proceeded in safety to El Howeyai, having sustained no loss.

The *Daily Telegraph* correspondent at the front, telegraphing on the 5th inst., gives the following account of the position of General Stewart's force:—

"Since my last of February 1 we have been improving and strengthening our works here. The ditch has been deepened at the outlying fort on the land side from the Nile, and the wall and parapet have been thickened. These defensive works have been completed, as we are anticipating a siege, and extra precautions must now be taken, since it is undoubted that the Mahdi possesses a considerable number of guns. Our fort here is triangular in shape, and is manned by strong guards. Similar work has been done upon the main defence on the river-side, which is an earthwork facing the land, with flanking trenches and parapets. Brushwood and wires have been placed outside to impede the enemy should they attempt to approach, and there is connected with the main work a redoubt on the Metammeh side, to protect the horses. It is known as 'Hussar Fort,' and is at present held by the troopers. We have outpost firing daily, chiefly in the direction of Metammeh; this is mainly due to the daring of our foragers in seeking wood and provender for the horses and camels. Two days ago a rather brisk encounter of this description occurred, when a man of the Sussex regiment was slightly wounded. Colonel Boscawen has unfortunately fallen ill, and Colonel Wilson, of the Guards, is temporarily in command."

News of another dearly-bought victory in the Soudan reached London on Thursday morning. Recent telegrams have reported that General Earle's column was advancing along the Nile to Abu Hamed and Berber, undertaking on its way to punish the tribe that treacherously slew Colonel Stewart and Mr. Power. On Monday the *Standard* correspondent telegraphed from Birti, which place General Earle had found completely deserted:—

"The enemy are reported to be holding the Shukok Pass in considerable strength. The country on this side of the river is very difficult for the movement of troops."

From another correspondent we learn that the enemy held a position in the Shukok Pass about sixteen miles above Birti, and were reported to have been from 2,000 to 3,000 strong. The Shukok Pass, we were told, presents considerable natural advantages for defence. On the left bank the track was narrow and difficult, so that it could be barred by a determined enemy, while the bank itself commanded the river. The pass could be turned by a force moving parallel to the river at a distance of three or four miles inland. It is this strong position that has been stormed by the advance guard under General Earle, who lost his life in heading the charge upon the enemy's position.

Of the battle several reports have been sent by the correspondents. From them we learn that on Monday afternoon the Black Watch, the South Staffordshire Regiment, a squadron of Hussars, two guns of the Egyptian Artillery, the Egyptian Camel Corps, and a section of the Field Hospital arrived at Dulka Island. As the enemy were known to be in force but a short distance away, the troops were at once set to work to form a zareba. While they were engaged upon this work the enemy, who were holding a very strong position on some high hills in front of us, fired several shots at us. Our pickets advanced, and their fire drove back the Arabs, who had come down the hills to attack. Strong guards were posted when it became dark, and all was in readiness to repulse an attack should the enemy venture to come down, but the night passed off quietly. Our scouts were within nine hundred yards of them all day, but there were only a few shots fired by the enemy on the island, which wounded slightly one Hussar. A boat containing some of the Royal Artillery was fired on from the right bank coming up, but without doing any damage. The enemy were on the rocky hills, their number being uncertain, but the position occupied by them was very strong, consisting of rocky and broken ground, strengthened by loopholed walls, from behind which they kept up a heavy and well-directed fusillade. A high razor-back ridge commanded the pass, which seems to wind between the shoulder of the ledge and the low rocky hills which rise on the river bank. This position was 1,500 yards in advance of our zareba.

The advance appears to have begun at seven in the morning, when our troops formed up and advanced towards the enemy's position, marching in two parallel columns, two companies of the Staffordshire Regiment with two guns taking up ground directly in front of the enemy to occupy their attention. At eight o'clock our guns opened, and for some time a desultory fire was kept up between them and the two companies of the Staffordshire Regiment and the enemy. The two columns, which advanced in parallel lines, round the left flank of the enemy, were composed of six companies of the South Staffordshire Regiment, and six of the Black Watch. They advanced steadily over almost impracticable ground, pushing the enemy before them and seizing each successive ridge by short determined rushes. They continued so to push forward until the advanced troops reached the right rear of the enemy, which rested on the river. This completed the movement, by which the Arabs were entirely surrounded.

The attack commenced by the Staffords charging up the pass at the point of the bayonet. Their rush was irresistible, and the enemy were swept before them like chaff. They were unable, however, to dislodge the enemy from a strong loopholed fort which maintained an obstinate resistance, and in their charge our men were subjected to heavy flank fire from the main position by the river. In the execution of this manœuvre Colonel Eyre, who has rendered such admirable service in connection with this expedition, was shot dead, and Colonel Colborne and Captain Horsbrugh were wounded. We lost here, in addition, two men killed and thirteen wounded.

While this was going on, finding that it was impossible to dislodge them by our musketry fire, General Earle gave orders for the Black Watch to carry the position with the bayonet. The regiment responded gallantly to the order. The pipers struck up, and with a cheer the Black Watch moved forward with a steadiness and valour which the enemy were unable to resist, and which called forth the admiration of the General. From the loopholed walls the rifle puffs shot out continuously, but without a check the Black Watch advanced, scaled the rocks, and at the point of the bayonet drove the enemy from their shelter.

When they reached the bank of the river, where the enemy were posted on some small rocky hills, the Black Watch and the six companies of the Staffordshire attacked the enemy, advancing to the left on the rear of the enemy's right. Apparently at the same time the two companies of the Staffordshire advanced up the pass from the front. The enemy was now in a trap between this attack and our guns and the two companies of the Staffords.

They defended themselves desperately, shooting well, being nearly all armed with a Remington, but our line advanced steadily, and took one hill. A number of the enemy now charged from the position, but were nearly all shot. A few escaped to the river and swam over.

The rebels appear to have made their last stand in the outlying earthworks commanding the loopholed fort out of which they were driven at the moment that General Earle was killed. Pressing into the fort from which the foe had just been dislodged, he was struck by a bullet and never spoke again.

The *Daily News* correspondent says:—"General Earle was shot from a small hut at this time, after accompanying the advance."

After General Earle's fall General Brackenbury assumed the command, and when the main position was carried he ordered the remainder of the Staffordshire Regiment to join the two companies already engaged, and to storm the hill at the point of the bayonet. The enemy clung to the position desperately, and disputed the ground inch by inch. Our men, however, vigorously pushed on, and having been reinforced on the hill by two more companies, stormed the outlying earthworks of the fort, shooting and bayoneting all the defenders.

The Egyptian troops coming from the zareba met the enemy with a murderous cross fire, driving them completely from their shelter—some into the river and some inland, scarcely any escaping.

Victory thus remained in our hands, but it was dearly purchased with the loss of our General, three officers, and eight men killed, with four officers and thirty-five men wounded. Colonel Coveney, of the Black Watch, was killed, while Major Wauchope and Lieutenant Kennedy, of the same regiment, were wounded. The enemy tried one spear charge, but they were shattered in all directions before they could get anywhere near our ranks. In the meantime the cavalry pushed on beyond the scene of conflict and captured the enemy's camp, three miles in their rear, before the Black Watch had captured the main positions. Our troops behaved with the most admirable steadiness and bravery. Nothing could exceed the coolness and courage with which they advanced under a tremendous and well-directed fire to carry the enemy's position. The defeat of the rebels was decisive, and, owing to the fact that we entirely surrounded them before commencing the attack, their only way of escape was by swimming the river. The number of the fugitives who escaped was very small.

Lord Wolseley's official despatch, as received from General Brackenbury, was as follows:—

"CAMP OPPOSITE DULKA ISLAND, Feb. 10.—Having found enemy in position stated in telegram No. 98 of 9th inst., General Earle concentrated Staffordshire and Black Watch Regiments here yesterday, reconnoitred the position, and this morning advanced to attack it. They held a high ridge of razor-backed hills and some advanced koppies in front close to the river. Two companies Staffordshire and two guns being left under Colonel Alleyne, to hold the enemy in front, we marched with six companies Staffordshire and six companies Black Watch round the high range of hills, entirely turning the enemy's position, which we attacked from the rear. The enemy's numbers were not great; but their position was extremely strong and difficult of access, and they fought with most determined bravery.

"The Black Watch advanced over rocks and broken ground upon the koppies, and, after having by their fire in the coolest manner driven off a rush of the enenmy, stormed the position under a heavy fire. General Earle was amongst the foremost in this attack, and, to the deep sorrow of every officer and man in the force, was killed on the summit of the koppie.

"The Staffordshire Regiment attacked the high ridge, and, over the most difficult ground it was possible for troops to advance upon, carried the position. In this attack their gallant commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre, was killed. Meanwhile, the squadron of 19th Hussars, under Colonel Butler, swept round to the rear and captured the enemy's camp. Our success is complete. We have captured ten standards, and the whole of the position is in our hands.

"It is difficult to estimate the enemy's loss, but their dead are lying thick among the rocks and in the open, where, when they found themselves surrounded, they tried to rush through our troops; scarcely any can have escaped.

"Our own loss is as follows:—Killed: Major-General Earle; Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre, South Staffordshire; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Coveney, Royal Highlanders; one corporal and three privates, Royal Highlanders; three privates South Staffordshire, and two Egyptian Camel Corps. Missing: one private, Royal Highlanders.

"Wounded very severely: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Wauchope, Royal Highlanders. Severely wounded: Captain Horsbrugh, Staffordshire; Lieutenant Honourable J. G. R. Colborne, Staffordshire; Lieutenant F. Kennedy, Royal Highlanders. Wounded: Twenty non-commissioned officers and men Staffordshire, and eighteen Black Watch. List will follow with written report by special messenger.

"Prisoners report enemy led by Moussa Wad Aburhegel, Ali Wad Husseiu, cousin of Lekalik's, and Hamid Wad Lekalik, brother of Lekalik. All these are reported killed. The enemy said to have consisted of the Monassir, with some Robatat and a force of Dervishes from Berber.

"Our advance by river will be continued to-morrow at daylight, and I shall endeavour to carry out your instructions to General Earle, with which I am fully acquainted."

In forwarding the above despatch, Lord Wolseley says:—"Dulka Island is about seventy miles above Merawee. The attack was well planned and gallantly executed, and I expect its effect will be to open the way without further fighting to Berber."

Reuter's correspondent with the column was severely wounded during the engagement. He was, however, able to send on an account of the fighting.

The *Daily News* correspondent, telegraphing from Cairo on Thursday, says:—"The splendid victory of General Earle's column near Dulka Island, fifty miles beyond Moroe, in which nearly all the enemy were killed, is regarded here as of the highest importance. The road is now open to Berber, where the enemy is concentrated."

The *Daily Chronicle* correspondent says:—"The enemy defending the pass and the fort could not have numbered fewer than 1,500, while their position was very strongly entrenched. The Arab loss is estimated at 300 killed; but this is probably much under the actual number. All our casualties were caused by the bullet."

In a letter from Gakdul, the special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* has the following about the first camel-riding of the Naval Brigade:—

"With much persuasion Jack had towed, strung into line, some sixty camels, for the detachment to ride which was to march to Metammeh. Lord Charles Beresford and Sir Herbert Stewart and staff, with many more, were there to see the Naval Brigade drill. 'Mount,' shouted Lieutenant Piggot, who was drilling the contingent. Aboard went Jack, still more quickly the camels snorted and surged to their feet, spilling and sending sprawling in all directions many a brave sailor. Somehow none of the men were hurt, and whilst Jack was trying to remount the lookers-on smiled audibly; even Lord Charles Beresford himself instantly produced his handkerchief and smothered something that sounded more like laughter than coughing, though it was his own command which was furnishing the fun. When the sailors at length had securely mounted, they seemed unhappy. Possibly they did not like the short lurches and swinging of the camels, and would have preferred a topgallant yard in a storm at sea. The camels also did not respond promptly to the tugs given by Jack to the guide-rope which serves as a rein for the animal, and the brutes blundered against each other, throwing the line at times into confusion. Their officers, with wary eyes to faults of this sort, strove to correct them by calling to the men, 'Hard a-port' or 'Hard a-starboard there.' One sailor I heard directed to pass the rope across, as 'that brute steers better from the port side.' Another Jack had so loaded his animal with the equipments for the march that he was told to dismount, and 'stow it afresh, as the camel's saddle had a bad list.' The cruellest thing I have heard for a long time was said when the troop got the order to trot, and the sailors went jog, jump, thump in their saddles, as if they were playing leap-frog on the camels. 'Don't bump so,' cried a bystander to one of the sailors; 'you'll make his head ache.' Jack turned upon his tormentor a melancholy eye, moistened either by the poignancy of his situation or the cold callousness of the remark.

The *Morning Post* has printed a letter dated 10 P.M., January 13, from its correspondent, Mr. St. Leger Herbert, who was killed during the fighting near Metammeh on the 19th of that month. The letter describes Sir Herbert Stewart's second march to Gakdul from Korti. We extract the following passage:—

"As strange and as fine a sight as any soldier will see in the way of drawing water for an army in the field may be seen at this hour at the Gakdul Wells. There are three wells here at different levels, one above the other, though not in a direct line, on the perpendicular face of the granite cliff. The Royal Engineers have been conducting the water from the second, or middle, well, by a canvas tube to vessels on the level adjacent to the lowest well, on the level of the ground. The water in this cavity has now sunk, and the pipe is no longer of sufficient length to reach it. It has become necessary, therefore, to transfer the tube to the highest of the three wells, and thence to draw water, keeping it filled to a certain level by drawing up water in buckets from the second well and emptying it into the highest. But to do this men must descend into the highest well and thence down a channel of rock to the second. This channel is the natural pathway of the water, which, falling from the surface of the earth into the highest well, rushes, when it has raised the pool to a certain height, out through an opening into the lower cavity. To descend by ropes into the first well, to find a foothold through the precipitous furrow of rock into the second, and to arrange a system of hauling up the water by buckets and passing it from the higher to the lower cavern, has been the especial labour to-night of Lord Charles Beresford's sailors. Lanterns are gleaming in the gloomy recesses of the rock, and voices are reverberating out of it throughout the valley. No pantomime in London has a scene as weird, and nowhere in the world is tremendously hard work done more cheerily or more efficiently. And the plain, practical result of this fairy theatrical scene, of the unearthly echoing of midnight voices in the rocky bowels of the precipice, of the gleam and flash of regulation lanterns in dark cavernous depths, is that the men will fill their water-skins for the march to-morrow with good water. These three wells, or, more properly speaking, three natural reservoirs in the rock, are perpendicular, cylindrical cavities, formed as though a giant had pierced the granite with a mighty auger, making the lowest well by driving the auger twenty feet below the level of the valley beneath, and making the others of less depth."

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, who is returning to Korti, sends the following about the Mahdi's army:—

"The surrender of Khartoum will greatly strengthen the Mahdi's hand. Besides the soldiers and munitions of war, it will gain him many adherents, though he has lost in battle many of his most powerful Emirs, and the whole of the Kabbabish tribe have now made common cause with us.

"Wounded rebels say that 5,000 of the Mahdi's best troops and many of the great sheikhs, sent specially against General Stewart's column, were nearly all killed, wounded, or disheartened. The Emir of Metammeh, Ali Wala Saad, and another Emir, Annour Angar, lie wounded at Metammeh. The head chief, Moussa El Tashi, was killed in the Battle of Abu Klea, and about thirty other chieftains in the two fights. The local tribes lost almost as heavily as those from Kordofan. Of the Ababdiah, who number 1,000 warriors, 500 were killed or dangerously wounded at Abu Klea alone. The return of the maimed to their native villages will do much to dispel the belief in the Mahdi's assurance that British rifles only spit water.

"A wounded youth, who was from Kordofan, said he found all that the Mahdi told them was lies. He said the British were only a small number with weapons that could do no harm. They would run away at the sight of the Arab spearmen. The majority of the enemy's troops were unwilling soldiers, compelled to fight or suffer the cruellest treatment. Any who refused were kept without food for forty days. If they survived that ordeal they were said to be exempt from military service by Allah's will, and were not molested by the Mahdi any more. Most, however, preferring the chances of war to certain starvation, gave in long before the expiration of the allotted time. The boy would not fight again unless compelled, and only prayed that he might live to return to his home again. He appeared to know much of the rebel movements, and said they had twenty-two guns before Khartoum, worked by Soudanese, and commanded by officers who were *protégés* of Ismail and had been taught artillery in Cairo. When that Khedive went to live in Italy the officers were dismissed without pay. They made common cause with Mahommed Ahmed. Nearly all the sharpshooters whose fire so harassed us in the laagers at Abu Klea and Abu Kru were deserters from Hicks's army."

A clergyman holding a distinguished position in London has sent to the *Globe* the following extra-

ordinary statement respecting the nature and movements of the Mahdi's emissaries in England :—

"About three months ago I first made the acquaintance of an Egyptian gentleman, an ex-Pasha, who was once Préfet de Police under Arabi at Cairo. I forget his name, which was a long one, the abbreviation of which I never really ascertained. The circumstances attending this casual acquaintance are so extraordinary, or rather have become so extraordinary since the reported fall of Khartoum, that I feel bound to make a public statement in reference to it.

"Residing in chambers towards the end of last November, I usually dined at an hotel near Victoria Station with some friends. Here we observed among the *habitués* a gentleman of good appearance, wearing a fez, and occasionally meeting others who conversed with him in French. One day, about the beginning of December, I approached him with the object of ascertaining his nationality. We spoke in French on general topics, and almost daily afterwards I met him on the best of terms. In the course of our conversation I discovered ('discovered' is the right word, for it transpired accidentally, when further concealment was impossible) that my companion was none other than the Préfet de Police at Cairo during the temporary reign of Arabi, and had actually helped to conceal Arabi after the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. As I am not unconnected with one of the Peace Societies, I soon took occasion to express my sympathy with Arabi, lamenting the action of the Government which led to the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. On this my companion became communicative, and revealed a quite astonishing acquaintance with European politics generally, and the esoteric attitude of the Powers towards Egypt in particular. This presented nothing actually strange to me or my friend at the time, nor did even his subsequent conversations, of which there were more than a score. I simply regarded him as an Egyptian patriot, a perfect gentleman, educated and refined to a degree which I could scarcely have expected in an Egyptian. With the report of the fall of Khartoum, however, these conversations assumed a different complexion. I and my friends had frequently remarked that he was very emphatic in pronouncing the friends of Arabi to be the friends of the Mahdi. Frequently, too, we had seen him in company with two gentlemen (from Birmingham, as we afterwards ascertained) to whom he talked privately, though at times we more than overheard them, of the purchase of rifles. But this is the singular part of the story. Once, about Christmas, I expressed a hope to him that Wolseley would soon enter Khartoum and relieve the gallant Gordon. (By this time, it should be said, we had become perfectly familiar, I having often assisted him to translate telegrams in the English papers.) He laughed, and said that Gordon was perfectly safe; but that Wolseley was not. He thereupon, with a wealth of circumstantial detail, which at the time I thought was mere prophecy and braggadocio, related the Mahdi's plans, and intimated the nature of his instruments. Mr. Blunt's scheme, he said, was the only one whereby a peaceful solution of the Soudan question could be obtained, for Mr. Blunt knew that the Mahdi had disciples in this country. Moreover, the Mahdi was prepared to accept Mr. Blunt's intervention, and would be ready to enter into negotiations the moment Mr. Blunt landed at Souakim. However, as that was impossible, the Mahdi had arranged to allow Wolseley to approach Khartoum. He might offer fight near Shendy with a portion of his troops, in order to tempt Wolseley to greater risk, but would on no account fight a decisive battle until the force were concentrated in or around Khartoum. General Gordon, he affirmed, was already virtually a prisoner in the Mahdi's hands, the 'defence of Khartoum' being a mere form, and no sooner were the English troops within a day's march of the citadel than he would enter into possession, and fight Wolseley from the point of vantage. This was stated to me, I repeat, more than once—in confidence, as a 'friend of Arabi' (but not of the Mahdi)—between Christmas and the end of the first week in January. Other details he gave me of lesser importance, but he insisted times without number that Gordon would not be killed. Instead of Lord Wolseley relieving Khartoum and Gordon, the Mahdi, he said, would do so; and, to quote his exact words, while Lord Wolseley 'aura rôti ses marrons, le Mahdi vous fera payer par le nez pour Gordon.' Is it unnecessary to add that this is precisely what has occurred?"

The convoy of wounded arrived at Korti on Thursday from Gubat, under Surgeon Harding. The names of the officers are :—Major Dickson, Surgeon M'Gill, Captain Leonard, Lieutenants Snow, Beech, Livingstone, and Lyall. The convoy also includes thirty-five rank and file. There were no casualties on the road, and all the wounded are doing well. Large depôts have now been formed here and at Gakdul Wells.

The New South Wales Government have offered to Her Majesty's Government, through the Agent-General, Sir Saul Samuel, for service in the Soudan, two batteries of the Permanent Field Artillery of New South Wales, with ten sixteen-pounder guns properly horsed; also an effective and disciplined battalion of infantry, 500 strong; the artillery to be under command of Colonel Roberts, R.A., and the whole force under command of Colonel Richardson, Commandant of the Military Forces in New South Wales, the Colonial Government undertaking to land the force at Souakim within thirty days from embarkation.

After the meeting of the Cabinet on Monday orders were transmitted to the War Office directing that a force numbering 7,000 men should be at once despatched to the Soudan. The force will be made up as follows :—1st Battalion Coldstreams, 750; 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, 750; 3rd Battalion Grenadiers, 750; Cavalry, about 600; 2nd Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 750; 1st Battalion Yorkshire Regiment, 600; one regiment from Malta, 700; Marines and Blue-jackets at Souakim, 700; and other regiments yet to be named, with artillery, engineers, commissariat, and transport. Sir A. Herbert has several generals to assist him in carrying out the details of the despatch of the reinforcements, although Lord Wolseley has given his instructions. The Director-General of the Army Medical Department and the Deputy-Adjutant-General for Royal Engineers are particularly busy in carrying out the War Office orders as to the force of their respective commands that will be engaged. A special telegraph wire has been laid on to the War Office from the Eastern Telegraph Company's office in the City, so that not a moment's delay will take place in the receipt of telegrams from the front. It is announced that arms, clothing, and accoutrements have been ordered to be made ready at the seventy depôt centres prior to the issue of a Royal proclamation calling out 10,000 men of the Reserve.

Lieut.-General Sir Gerald Graham, V.C., K.C.B., has been appointed to the important command of the expedition to open up the Souakim-Berber route, and to co-operate with Lord Wolseley's force. Brevet Major-General Fremantle has been appointed to command the Brigade of Guards ordered to Egypt, and Major-General Greaves has received the appointment of Chief of the Staff. General Graham last year led the British forces against the rebels under Osman Digna, at the battles of El Teb and Tamai, and his acquaintance with the country and the difficulties likely to be encountered will, it is considered, be of material assistance in the approaching march upon Berber. General Fremantle, who has held the command at Souakim for some time past, has reconnoitred much of the ground to be traversed. Major-General Hudson, who has been given the command of the Indian contingent, will, it is believed, have control of 3,000 men, as it is probable that another native infantry regiment will be added to the regiments already under orders.

Among the first officers to leave England for the seat of war will be: Colonel Sir Owen Lanyon; his aide-de-camp, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. White; Major H. Tucker, Captain Hickson, Captain Fellowes, R.N., Commander Morrison, R.N., Colonel Gunning, and Mr. G. A. Benson, R.A. Their departure is fixed for to-day (Saturday), and they will proceed overland to Brindisi, and thence to their destination.

A Reuter's telegram dated Bombay, Feb. 11, states that the 12th Madras Native Infantry has been ordered to proceed to Egypt.

IRELAND.

Cardinal MacCabe died early on Wednesday morning at Kingstown, Dublin. His death is deeply lamented by people of all creeds in Ireland. The Loyalists consider his death a heavy blow to the cause of peace and order in Ireland. The Cardinal sternly refused to allow his clergy to take part in any of the political demonstrations in connection with the Parnellite agitation, and consequently was exposed to the violent hostility of the Nationalists. Cardinal MacCabe was sixty-nine years of age. He was a native of Dublin, and his pastoral life was spent in the diocese. In 1877 he became coadjutor to Cardinal Cullen, and in the following year on the Cardinal's death succeeded to the metropolitan see. In 1882 he received the Cardinal's biretta and hat. During the distress of 1881 he worked on the Mansion House Relief Committee with Archbishop Trench.

The Very Rev. Richard Baptist O'Brien, Roman Catholic Dean of Limerick, died on Wednesday morning at the parochial residence. He was doctor of divinity, parish priest of Newcastle West, and a prominent advocate of Home Rule in the days of the late Mr. Butt.

The annual dinner of the Dublin Constitutional Club was given on Monday night in the Antient Concert Rooms. Among those present were Lord Waterford, Lord Longford, Lord Wicklow, Lord Rossmore, Lord Bangor, Mr. E. Gibson, Mr. Plunket, and Mr. J. T. Hamilton, M.P. Lord Waterford, who responded for the House of Lords, said Her Majesty's Government were directly responsible for what had happened in the Soudan, and they would have to answer to the country. Referring to the effect of the Redistribution Bill in Ireland, he said they knew that the representation of the Loyalists must be diminished, and that of the Parnellites increased. They should not be disheartened, but rather seek to counterbalance the loss by the energy and ability of the men they returned. It was all very well to preach Communism as long as the labourers had no vote; but now it was high time for the farmers to look to themselves and to see the end to which the leaders were decoying them. They would find that the hardships they had undergone in the past would be as nothing to the misery they would have to undergo when subject to the newly enfranchised labourers, to whom Communistic doctrines were being preached. Mr. Parnell had never said a word to discourage dynamite outrages, which were driving the Irish labourers out of Ireland and destroying trade in the country. He hoped something would be done for the labourers, not by confiscating property, but by giving security to capital, by returning to the paths of law and order, and by adopting a course the very converse of the programme of the National League.

A chapter of the most illustrious Order of St. Patrick was held on Monday at Dublin Castle for the investiture of the Right Hon. Luke, Baron Annaly, and the Right Hon. Thomas Spring Rice, Lord Monteagle, as Knights of the Order. The ceremony took place in the newly-redecorated and renovated St. Patrick's Hall, in the presence of a brilliant assemblage, numbering about 600. The ceremony was of the usual character, the belting introduced during the time of the Duke of Marlborough being dispensed with. The grand procession of the Knights Companions of the Order, accompanied by the officers of the Order, to introduce Lord Annaly to his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, Grand Master of the Order, was the main feature in the ceremony. The band of the Highland Light Infantry attended, and, on his Excellency taking his seat, played the National Anthem. The investiture of the new Knights with the ribbon and badge of the Order was performed by his Excellency, with the assistance of the two senior Knights present, the Earl of Cork and the Marquis of Drogheda. The company invited to witness the ceremony, and who were all in Court dress, remained to a dance, which took place after the investiture.

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure of showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The Queen has graciously signified her pleasure to the following Ministerial appointments:—The Earl of Rosebery assumes the offices of Lord Privy Seal and First Commissioner of Works, with a seat in the Cabinet. The Right Hon. G. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., Postmaster-General, also enters the Cabinet.

Larry Mack, the man who made, it is alleged, the false affidavits which were read in the House of Commons by Mr. Chamberlain, and for whom a warrant has since that time been out, was arrested on Saturday night by Detective Cooper. He was taken before the Birmingham magistrate on Monday, and charged with a deliberate and defamatory libel against Mr. R. C. Jarvis in connection with the demonstration that took place at Aston in October last. At the close of the evidence the prisoner was committed for trial.

Sir Stafford Northcote has forwarded the following circular letter to his supporters in the House of Commons :—"*Pynes, Exeter, Feb.* 6, 1885.—My dear Sir,—Parliament reassembles on Thursday, the 19th. In addition to the other important business which will be proceeded with, the position of affairs in Egypt and the course of policy adopted by Her Majesty's Government will demand immediate attention. I therefore trust that you will be able to attend the opening.—I remain, yours very faithfully, Stafford H. Northcote."

The Patriotic Association will convene a mass meeting in honour of General Gordon on Wednesday, the 18th inst. Full particulars of this and other meetings to be held will be announced later on.

The reorganisation of the Correspondence Departments of the India-office has been completed, and has received the sanction of the Secretary of State for India in Council. The Correspondence Departments include the financial, military, judicial and public, political and secret, and the revenue, statistics, and commerce departments, and have an establishment of six secretaries (£1,200), 10 assistant secretaries (£700 fo £900), 14 senior clerks (£500 to £700), and 12 junior clerks (£100 to £400). In accordance with the new scheme, the initial salary of junior clerks will be £200, increasing to £600 by annual increments of £20. Senior clerks will commence with £600, rising to a maximum of £800, by increments of £25 per annum; and the salary of assistant secretaries will be £800—£1,000; while that of secretaries will remain unchanged. The new establishment will be as follows :—Six secretaries, seven assistant secretaries, 11 senior, and 12 junior clerks. Clerkships in the India-office, which are filled by open competition under the scheme of examination known as Class I., will now be amongst the most valuable offered to public competition. The limits of age for these appointments are 18—24.

Mr. Trevelyan, M.P., speaking at Manchester on Tuesday night, said he believed the whole country was agreed as to the course which must now be pursued in the Soudan. The question was not political, but military. We were responsible for the security of our brave soldiers, for the loyalty of the tribes which were wavering, for the lives of those who had joined our cause, and for the safety of Egypt. We did not seek the quarrel, but now that the sword had been drawn against a fanatical Oriental enemy we could not put up with failure. He maintained also that the majority of civilised nations sympathised with us at this moment, because they knew that, whatever her mistakes and faults might be, England stood up for freedom, order, and humanity, and that she would not abuse the fruits of the victory she would gain.

Mr. John Morley, M.P., president of the Glasgow Junior Liberal Association, delivered an address on Tuesday night in the City Hall. Speaking on the Egyptian question, he asked whether in the altered state of affairs there was any great object of policy to accomplish, and was it any interest of ours to make ourselves responsible for the Soudan? Mr. Morley argued that to have a bloody war, followed by a burdensome annexation, would be the very direct accumulation of mischief that the mind and the imagination could picture.

Mr. Courtney, M.P., addressing electors of the Liskeard and Bodmin division of East Cornwall at Torpoint on Tuesday night, said that he protested against the notion of waging war against the Mahdi, supposing Gordon to be dead, simply for the purpose of showing our might, as one wholly inconsistent with the duty of a nation, wholly inconsistent with even heathen morality, and wholly inconsistent with the lowest and basest measure of our own self-interest. As regarded the influence which it was asserted the Mahdi's success might exercise over the Mahommedans in India, Mr. Courtney said the best way of making the Mahommedan and Hindoo population in India attached to our power was by doing as Lord Ripon had been doing—by taking steps to associate them with us in the government of India. Give them the rights of citizenship, and they would be proud to be citizens. If, unhappily, Gordon were dead, then with some sort of regret, but with a firm face, he would say we must retire from the Soudan, not showing any alarm, not showing any hurry, not going post-haste towards Egypt Proper, but quietly and calmly withdrawing, possessing our strength, ready to repel any attack that may be made upon us, but equally determined not to make a wanton attack upon others.

Lord Egmont, speaking at a meeting held on Tuesday night in connection with the Sutton Working Men's Constitutional Association, referred to Lord Rosebery's remarks at Epsom that the catastrophe at Khartoum might turn out a blessing in disguise, and observed that if it should be the cause of removing from power Mr. Gladstone and his Ministry, then indeed it would be a blessing in disguise.

Lord Ripon, in replying to an address presented to him by Liberal Associations at Leeds on Saturday, said he knew of nothing for many years which had thrilled so keenly throughout the length and breadth of the land as the unfortunate captivity—for he trusted it was no worse—of that great man General Gordon, as his courageous and simple character bore the true heroic stamp. The first duty of the Government was to use every means in their power to ascertain General Gordon's fate; and if, as they all trusted, he should still be alive, to take whatever measures might be necessary for his deliverance from captivity. Looking at the general condition of affairs in Egypt in the light of recent occurrences, he did not think that, though there was undoubtedly ground for serious anxiety, there was any cause for alarm, and still less for panic. They had no right to suppose that Lord Wolseley had overlooked the possibility of the contingency that had just occurred, and he (Lord Ripon) believed Lord Wolseley would be able to extricate himself from any difficulty which might fall upon him under present circumstances. But if he was to do that he must receive from the Government and the public at home the utmost confidence and the most unlimited support. Fears were expressed as to the effects which recent events might have upon the Oriental races, and foreign critics also were inclined to speak in not the most friendly terms of what had just occurred; but foreign nations and Oriental races would be very apt to be guided a good deal in their judgment by what we said about ourselves. If we met this crisis with that calm deliberation and self-restraint which we were accustomed to boast of as one of the characteristics of our nation, then foreign countries and other peoples would take a practical view of the matter. Above all, this seemed to him a time in which men of all parties should unite to give their support to the Government of the day in every measure they might think necessary to take for the preservation of our military position and the maintenance of our honourable engagements. At any rate, Liberals were bound to wait before they uttered one word of condemnation, or even hostile criticism, until they knew from the Government themselves what was the course they had adopted, and what explanations they had to offer of the occurrences which had recently taken place.

Lord Ripon was on Tuesday presented with a congratulatory address by the Indian Reform Association. In reply his Lordship expressed a confident belief that Lord Dufferin's Government would pass the amended Bengal Tenancy Bill this year, and described what progress was being made with the question of facilitating the admission of natives to the Civil Service. The noble marquis then entered into a spirited vindication of his policy whilst Viceroy of India. He denied that his Government tried to do too much and acted precipitately, and contended that in all the questions which they took up they were called upon to do so by the necessities of public business.

Mr. Edward Gibson, M.P., speaking at the annual meeting of the Dublin Constitutional Club on Saturday evening, said that at no recent time had public affairs claimed more anxious and more painful attention than at the present. All lovers of their country would now be animated by a stern determination to face the present crisis with a resolute intention that there shall be neither panic or dismay. The responsibility of the Government for what had occurred was patent to all. After General Graham's victories at El Teb and Tamanieb, Gordon, who was an entire intelligence department in himself, indicated that that was the time to open up the route from Souakim to Berber, and to open communication with Khartoum. He was supported in that view by General Graham himself, General Stephenson, Sir Evelyn Wood, and Sir Evelyn Baring. Yet the Government assumed the terrific responsibility of declining to accept that advice. Therefore they were directly and primarily responsible for the fall of Khartoum. The country would no longer tolerate vacillation and delay, and they would not stand any more disgrace like the Majuba Treaty. Mr. Plunket, M.P., also spoke, and said the time was not far distant when the nation would demand an explanation of the gross neglect and mismanagement of the Government in regard to Egypt. But for their divided councils and blind hesitancy there would not now be the terrible cry, "Too late! too late!" The Ministry were pledged to save Gordon, and the nation would now demand why that covenant had not been kept, and would take retribution.

Mr. Edward Clarke, speaking on Monday night at the reopening of the Junior Conservative Club House at Hastings, said that difficulties and disasters had increased until they had been met by a calamity the remedy for which would tax, and very largely tax, the resources of this country. This was not the time for wild and passionate speaking, but a time when they should seriously take account of their position and recognise their responsibilities and face their duty. He believed that when the history of the Cabinet was written, the first place in the long roll of crimes would be the chapter in regard to Egypt. He had always said that their intervention in Egypt was absolutely unjustifiable. The war was altogether unjustifiable by interest or necessity, and it was a war in which their Ministers were untrue to the true interests of the country. They had heard for some years that the state of things in Egypt was caused by the action of the predecessors of the present Government. One thing was clear in regard to this Egyptian war—it was wholly and solely the doing of the present Government. When, in May, 1882, they sent our fleet to co-operate, as was believed, with the French at Alexandria, they took these steps against the advice of their own friends; and they not only did a wrong thing, but they confessed they had done wrong. Particulars would be found entered in the Blue Books in which Lord Granville and Mr. Gladstone acknowledged the mistake of this course, but they said that France had gone so far with them that they were obliged in the end to make concessions to France. The Government were warned by those who knew Egypt well that an intervention by France and England would inevitably make war. Alexandria was bombarded, and since then every step taken had been after delay and vacillation, and this had made the mischief worse. What was the net result they had to face to-day? A danger which was the greatest they had had since the Indian Mutiny in 1857. If they took Khartoum they must make up their mind what they were going to do with it when they had got it. To abandon Khartoum after the style of Candahar would be a great mistake. It would be wild and wicked to take Khartoum and then abandon it. Some said they had to avenge themselves; he said the Government should be avenged for having betrayed Gordon.

Lord Rosebery, addressing a Liberal gathering at Epsom on Monday night, urged that the blow which had been sustained in the Soudan ought not to be exaggerated. It was not loss of territory, it was not defeat in battle; and—what was more important than all—there was not the remotest shadow of dishonour. So far from humiliation, we had only glory to record.

There was that magnificent march across the desert by a few men with little water and under a parching sun. There was the long night's vigil and watchfulness, to end in a triumphant fight. There were the battles of Abu Klea and Metammeh to record; and the last was the defence of Khartoum, garrisoned, as we might say, by one single man—the last outpost of our civilisation held by one man. There was nothing to grieve over in this. It was only a few pages of glory added to an already glorious history. It might entail sacrifices; if it did, we should be ready to meet them. Even if Gordon were dead, which he hoped might not be the case, we should not mourn. We knew that he had died the death he would have chosen—a soldier's death upon the field of duty. To every man on earth death came sooner or later, and how could a man die better than for "the ashes of his fathers and the temple of his gods?" We did not know if Gordon were dead, but we did know that he would not have us mourn for him. At this juncture they were bound to show their sympathy with Her Majesty's Government in the trial they were undergoing. On more than one occasion he had exercised the right of private judgment, and had ventured to say that a bolder and clearer course might have been adopted. But he knew this, that the Government had had to deal with a situation of unexampled difficulty, and so far from thinking that it would be important to turn the Government out, it was a time in which he trusted every Englishman wished to strengthen the Government in every way.

Mr. HIBBERT, M.P., Secretary to the Treasury, speaking on Monday night at Oldham, said in the present crisis there was no reason for panic, because, after all, what had happened in the Soudan might have happened at any time during the last few months. It had been said that if Sir Charles Wilson had been two days sooner he would have been able to have saved Gordon, but it was impossible to fight against treachery. As to what was to be done he was not in the secrets of the Cabinet; but from what he knew of his colleagues they would not be wanting in taking whatever course might be recommended by Lord Wolseley. He could not help thinking that if we had never gone into Egypt what a comparatively happy position we should have been in. Their Conservative opponents were inclined just now to use hard words about this question, but he charged them with leading the country into Egypt. He hoped the time would soon come when they could leave Egypt, and leave it, too, with honour to ourselves, and in a way that would be beneficial to the Egyptian people.

Lord CARRINGTON, speaking at Epsom on Monday night, defended Mr. Chamberlain's views on the land question, remarking that he saw nothing in them that was dangerous to the landed interest. Mr. Chamberlain, as he understood him, wished to check the flow of agricultural labourers into the already overcrowded towns, and to keep them on the land, and thought this could be done in the following way:—In parts of the country where private owners are unwilling or unable to grant allotments to agricultural labourers, he advocates that local authorities should have compulsory powers (of course under proper restrictions) to buy land for that purpose at a fair value. The benefits of an allotment at a fair rent to agricultural labourers were well known and could hardly be exaggerated. Round High Wycombe, a manufacturing town of about 17,000 inhabitants, he had 800 allotment tenants, who occupied a tenth of an acre each, and who paid him the agricultural value of the land plus the rates. The net produce of each allotment was £4—that was, £40 an acre. The most a farmer could make out of the same land under plough cultivation would be £7 an acre. So in these 80 acres under allotments, £2,460 worth of extra food was produced, and altogether £3,200 worth of wholesome garden stuff was grown—the result of the spare time and labour of artisans which would otherwise probably have been wasted.

Mr. GOSCHEN was entertained at dinner on Wednesday night by the Liverpool Reform Club. In replying to the toast of his health, he referred mainly to foreign and colonial policy. We had, he said, within the last few days witnessed a striking unanimity on every side in the manner in which the troubles and difficulties in Egypt were faced; but the spirit of patriotism should be equally shown in our not being so absorbed by the subject as to refuse to pay any regard to anything else. There was the greatest necessity at the present moment for the country having its eyes open all round. Lord Wolseley was to have a free hand at Korti. Was the English Government to have a free hand at Cairo? Would it be right that Germany and Russia should have the power to control Great Britain? The claim they had put forward was unreasonable, and grave as our position was the claim should not, he thought, have been admitted. Then, again, when before had there ever been such a desire to enter into financial responsibilities as was shown in the international guarantees, which could mean nothing but international annexation? While British soldiers were fighting the battles, and British taxpayers paying the cost, he did not think the British Parliament should agree to accept the international control. On the other hand, if reasonable proposals were put forward, then let us agree to them; but if unreasonable requisitions were made upon us the country would support the Government in refusing them. It was not in a moment of failure, he did not like to say disaster, that England should show herself squeezable. Let them look things calmly in the face and not allow this one blow to induce them to yield what they should not have yielded before. He would not disguise from them that he was considerably disquieted by rumours which he had heard with regard to Russia and the Afghan frontier. Was Russia again playing a game of which she was extremely fond—namely, putting pressure on at an inconvenient moment, with the view of getting more than she would do at other times? We ought to let it be known how far we were prepared to go, and upon what we were determined to take our stand. England was greatly misunderstood on the Continent; and he thought it was worth while to try and remove to some extent that misunderstanding. The wisest thing Englishmen could do would be to make up their minds as to what were their duties, and then boldly to face them. We were being squeezed in Egypt by France with the connivance of Europe, we were being squeezed in South Africa by Germany, and on the Afghan frontiers by Russia; but that could not go on much longer. It would not do. We were not going to hold the millstone doctrine, we were not going to allow ourselves to be weighed down by one difficulty. And if it was said, "Why, there is such an absorption of our forces," well, then he asked were our forces of the stereotyped standard? Sooner than admit the doctrine that we could not help ourselves we must be prepared to add if it were necessary 20,000 men to the Army and set every dockyard in the country at work. We should make up our minds, and make others feel that we had made up our minds, that we would stand no nonsense.

Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, responding for "The County Members" at the dinner of the Teddington and Hampton Wick Conservative Association on Wednesday night, referred to the slaughter in the Soudan. He said that when the Conservative Government were in power the Prime Minister chose to classify them with cannibals and criminals for permitting slaughter of which they knew nothing. But owing to the information possessed by the present Government they might have prevented every one of the recent massacres if they had chosen to raise their little finger in time. They had, however, deliberately declined to take the necessary steps because they thought that if they did so they might split up their party. The consequence of that neglect was that we as a nation were losing our character and prestige, and the quick-witted races of the East were beginning to be under the fatal impression that it was better to be the enemy than the friend of England. Mr. Gladstone, he considered, was the main cause of all these disasters, and at the present time we were face to face with complications and dangers in every part of the globe. It appeared to him that the easiest and the best course for the Conservative party to adopt at the present moment was to strengthen the hands of the Government, but at the same time to see that no further vacillation occurred, and if any member of the Cabinet should be guilty of such conduct to insist upon his vacating office rather than allow the interests of the country to be again imperilled. Mr. DIXON-HARTLAND was among the other speakers.

Mr. MARRIOTT, addressing a meeting of the Working Men's Conservative Association at Eastbourne on Wednesday night, said that if the policy of Mr. Morley, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and Mr. Courtney were carried out, we should lose all our colonial possessions and become a small agricultural community. If we were to keep our position we must remain paramount in Egypt. It was really the halfway house to our Indian possessions. When we read apologies for Mr. Gladstone he felt that they condemned him more strongly than his open accusers. They said that he had no wish to go to Egypt, and no wish to send out Gordon. Then why, in Heaven's name, was he the Prime Minister of England? No Minister had a right to be in power except to carry out a policy of which he could thoroughly approve. He was certain that Mr. Gladstone did not realise the state of affairs. Ten thousand of our best officers and men were ordered to be sent out to face the worst of climates, which meant that some 50,000 hearts were aching in consequence of that policy. And what did they read that morning? Why, that Mr. Gladstone was last night at the Criterion Theatre, laughing heartily at the play. (Shame.) That cry of shame ought to go out through the country. On no head did so much blood-guiltiness rest as on that of Mr. Gladstone at the present time. Every calamity that had occurred had been foretold; but no action had been taken.

Mr. J. K. CROSS, Under-Secretary for India, and Mr. J. P. THOMASSON, the members for Bolton, addressed their constituents on Wednesday night. Mr. Cross said that wherever in this wide world men who spoke the Anglo-Saxon tongue were met together, their first thought, their first word, was of the noble-hearted hero who twelve months ago left our shores to try to relieve the Egyptian garrisons who were imprisoned in the Egyptian Soudan. His name was almost without parallel in the annals of our people. He did not know what was possible in the Soudan; but a great deal of the advice so freely given in some of the newspapers was absolutely impossible of accomplishment. There was an idea in the newspapers that some compensation might be gained if we could hold the Soudan for commerce. He did not know what ground there was for saying anything of the kind. He had tried himself to find any such reason, and this he knew—that Gordon himself, writing on the 22nd of January last year, gave a very different account of this place. He thought we might have full confidence in leaving to General Wolseley the decision as to what was necessary in a military sense. At the same time he was bound to tell them that in his opinion it was not possible that any military operations could be carried on rapidly.

THE INFLUENCE OF CIVILISATION ON EYESIGHT.

A paper on "The Influence of Civilisation on Eyesight," read by Mr. R. Brudenell Carter at a recent meeting of the Society of Arts, contained many facts of a highly interesting kind:—

"An enormously large proportion of the whole German nation is composed of the wearers of spectacles, and there is abundant evidence that the need for such assistance dated from a comparatively recent period. In 1812 the late Mr. Ware communicated to the Royal Society the results of some investigations into the sight of different classes of people in this country; and he stated that, in the three regiments of Foot Guards, short sight was 'almost utterly unknown.' During twenty years, and among 10,000 men, not half a dozen soldiers had been discharged, nor half a dozen recruits rejected, on account of it. In the military school at Chelsea, among 1,300 children, he found that there were no complaints of short sight, and, on closer investigation there were 'only three children who experienced the least inconvenience from it.' Last year his friend and colleague, Mr. Adams Frost, was good enough to examine for him a Board school in the south of London, and he found that 73 children out of 267, or rather more than one-fourth, had defective or subnormal vision. Among these 73, 26 were short-sighted, 16 were flat-eyed, and would thus be called upon for unnatural exertion in the act of seeing—exertion which cannot fail to tell upon them in after-life, or even before they leave school. In 1865, in Germany, Professor Cohn examined the eyes of 10,060 school-children, and found 1,630 of them with eyes of faulty shape. Of these, 1,072 were short-sighted, 139 were flat-eyed, 23 were the subjects of a complicated defect of shape called astigmatism, and 396 were suffering from the results of previous disease."

Mr. Carter had offered to the School Board for London to undertake an equally extensive investigation; but his offer was declined in an uncivil letter, written in very bad English.

"He could not doubt, however, from the incidental sources of information at his command, that the conditions found in one school by Mr. Frost would, at least approximately, be repeated in many others. What he might fairly describe as national neglect of the culture of the eyes, and of efforts to improve the faculty of seeing, was chiefly due to the prevailing absence of notion concerning the proper range and scope of the visual function, and hence concerning the powers which the eyes ought to possess. Few things were more remarkable than the common want of information about all matters which related to the use and functions of these important organs. In most other respects it might be said that the majority of parents had a fair knowledge of what ought to be the average powers and capabilities of children. They knew, approximately at least, how far a boy of ten years old could reasonably be expected to walk, how high or how far he could jump, how fast he could run, what weight he could carry, what force he could exert. There was not one parent in five hundred who had the smallest notion how large an object, say a capital letter, a boy ought to be able to see clearly at 100ft. away; or who could tell at what distance he ought to be able to see and describe the characters of an object of given magnitude. There was not one parent in five hundred who could tell whether his children possessed natural colour vision, or who, if the inquiry were suggested to him, would know how to discover the truth. Mr. Francis Galton had lately pointed out, with great force and lucidity, that one of the most important duties of man, at the present stage of his development, was to regulate the progress of the evolution of his race; and one consequence of want of knowledge about vision was that the evolution of the eye had been left to the sport of accident, or that it had even been injuriously affected by many of the circumstances incidental to civilisation. Into the operation of these circumstances it was now time to inquire."

For the organs of living beings there was no resting-place; they must either advance or deteriorate, either continue in a course of improvement under the influence of evolution, or "throw back," as breeders say, to an earlier and less finished type under the influence of sluggish and imperfect use.

"Of deterioration we had an abundance of examples, and in two especially common ways. We had the malformation of short sight, which had come into existence within historic time, and into prevalence almost within living memory, and which now affects at least one-tenth of our population; and we had the malformation of flat-eye, which was plainly an involution, a return to an earlier and less perfect type, and which was attended in the great majority of cases by an acuteness of vision below even the humble standard with which our dwellers in towns are wont to satisfy themselves."

The remedy for the conditions which he had described must be sought, first of all, in a recognition of the fact that good sight is an important point of physical excellence, which, like any other such point, should be assiduously cultivated.

"He would urge parents to ascertain, as soon as their children knew the alphabet, whether they could decipher the letters at the proper distances. He would urge upon them, in the case of every child whose vision was subnormal, to ascertain the cause and nature of the defect, and to regulate not only the studies, but also, as far as possible, the future career, in accordance with it. He would urge upon all who had the control of schools that the vision of every new pupil should be tested on admission, and that the tasks required should be controlled in accordance with its capabilities. He would urge that all lesson-books for very young children be printed in large type, and that the children should be compelled to keep such books at a distance (the type in which we often see texts of Scripture printed to be hung up in railway waiting-rooms would be a good size for the purpose). He would urge that many of the school-books now in use should be abandoned, and that new editions should be prepared, in type of at least twice the size and twice the legibility (the latter depending much upon the shape and design of the letters) of that which was now in use. Finally, he would urge upon all who were concerned in the organizing of athletic sports and contests, that excellence of vision should be highly esteemed in such competitions. He felt sure that if public attention were once fairly directed to the question, if the eyes received as much attention as the muscles, and if an intelligent knowledge of what they ought to accomplish were diffused abroad, that our country in the course of two or three generations would be peopled by a race who might engage, if not without fear, yet certainly without disgrace, in a seeing contest with any other representatives of the human family."

THE GEOLOGY OF LONDON.

On Saturday evening Mr. Sydney B. J. Skertchly, F.G.S., delivered the first of two London Institution lectures on this subject, treating first the geology of the London streets, and next the geology of the suburbs. Under the former head he spoke of the building stones of the capital. Formerly very little granite or other crystalline rock was used for building purposes, our Government and other edifices being constructed of freeworking limestones and sandstones. But of late years a great change had taken place, and architects now availed themselves of the beautiful crystalline rocks, and were rapidly converting London into an artistic city. Now the student of geology could study the British plutonic and volcanic rocks in his walks in the City, whereas formerly only a few bridges, such as London and Waterloo bridges, afforded him an opportunity of seeing such stone. London-bridge, built of Cornish granite, was finely porphyritic, and showed large white felspar crystals to perfection. The handsome dark granite from Shap Fell, with its fine red felspar crystals, was rapidly becoming a favourite, and might be seen in the posts around St. Paul's Cathedral, which were interesting as having been turned in a lathe. This peculiar granite, too, had by its microscopic characters yielded the secrets of its origin, and was of such a marked character as to have been of the greatest use in tracking the course of the ice-sheets and glaciers that once dominated Britain. The history of various limestones and sandstones was described, and interesting details were given of some of the varieties used in our public buildings. The lecture was illustrated with specimens and microscopic enlargements of rock structure.

On Tuesday night the lecturer observed that his object was to encourage students to study geology in the field, and to show how most of the important geological phenomena could be observed in afternoon walks around London. Six typical localities were described. At Guildford the structure of the London basin could be well studied, and from the Hog's Back the whole story of that area was laid bare in the landscape, and also that of the Weald. At Lewisham the whole of the rocks from the chalk to the London clay were seen in the magnificent sections of Loampit Vale. The chalk, recalling the deep-sea soundings of the central ocean, though very different from them, told of purely marine conditions, and its fossils and flint bands were full of interest. A large fault might be seen close at hand, illustrating the great forces of upheaval. Then came the tertiary beds, beginning with sands, passing into loams, and from clay to loams and sand again. These beds were the true London beds and revealed the varying alterations of shallow to deep water and shoals again; none were of true deep-sea origin, but rather were the estuarine beds of a great river like the Amazon, showing by their fossils that the climate was warm enough to support figs and cinnamons, and such tropical forms as the nautilus. At Highgate and Hampstead the higher beds gave to those places their special features. At Finchley the last traces of the great ice-sheet which smothered England during the height of the glacial epoch could be seen, and ice-scratched boulders from the midland and northern counties bearing testimony to the flow of the ice. Passing down the river to Erith and Crayford, the ancient history of the Thames was revealed in grand sections. Here might be seen the deposits laid down by the river when it flowed 60ft. higher than at present. The old river channel cut through the tertiary beds into the chalk was exposed, and in these beds might be found the remains of elephants, rhinoceroses, and other extinct creatures that roamed along the old river banks. Also there might be found the relics of England's earliest human inhabitants, and at the latter place even the old workshop where the flint tools were fashioned was to be found buried under the accumulations of ages. The sculpturing of the surface into hill and dale could be studied everywhere, and no better proof of the enormous age of the tertiary beds could be seen than in a walk around still picturesque Croydon.

New Zealand in 1884 was the subject of a paper read at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on Tuesday evening, by Mr. Arthur Clayden, of Nelson, N.Z. Sir Charles Clifford presided. Mr. Clayden divided his paper into two heads—first, "The Industrial Position of New Zealand," and second, "Its Social and Political Position." With regard to the first he stated that every description of industry, pastoral, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial, had been and still was making rapid progress. Sheep farming and the production of wool had made tremendous strides during ten years, and the breeding of cattle had enormously increased—the shorthorns being specially fine—while several flourishing companies were engaged in the manufacture of cheese and butter. High-bred horses had recently been introduced into the colony from America and England, and their progeny realised exceptionally high prices. South Australia had had to yield the palm to New Zealand in wheat-growing. Several woollen mills had been established and were turning out excellent material utterly devoid of shoddy, the timber trade was flourishing; while the sugar refining, kauri gum, rabbit skin, frozen and canned meats, jam, gold and coal mining, and cement industries were all making rapid progress, with profitable results. With regard to the second head, the social conditions of New Zealand life were wonderfully similar to those at home. Religious provision was almost overdone, at any rate as far as quantity was concerned; the intellectual life of the populace was intense and universal. For the cultured Englishman, however, there was much to put up with, for success was the universal test of merit there, but that no doubt would be rectified in time. Mr. Macandrew, a member of the Legislature, had moved a resolution to set apart 10,000 acres of land in 10-acre sections at a price of 20s. per acre for the benefit of the Highland crofters, and the resolution had probably been carried by the House of Representatives by this time. The reading of the paper was followed by a discussion, and the proceedings were brought to a termination by the customary compliment to the lecturer and chairman.

Mr. E. F. im Thurn, the well-known explorer of British Guiana, has made another expedition to the interior of that colony with a view to ascend the Roraima mountain. When he was last able to communicate with a friend in Georgetown, which was in the early part of December, he had ascended the slope of the mountain to a height of 5,600ft. He says that it was a lovely spot "a very garden of orchids and of most beautiful and strange plants." On his way to Roraima he passed through an Indian country in which he found an extraordinary state of things. There were no missionaries, but the Indians had built churches of their own, in which for six hours a day men, women, and children were engaged in perpetually repeating the Ten Commandments and the Creed, while occasionally members of this strange congregation would increase the general discord by singing psalms or hymns. Mr. im Thurn points out that while there is good work for "a well-selected and educated man" to do among these unsophisticated natives, the tendency of the system which they have established among themselves is to withdraw them from regular habits of industry. The traveller found a portrait of Mr. Gladstone in one of the churches.

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ANNUAL INCOME	685,379

The Directors are prepared to receive from Local Boards and Corporations applications for Loans upon rates.
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FINANCIAL INFORMATION, 1st JUNE, 1884:—

Total Funds	£3,148,166
Total Annual Income	£343,271
Total Amount of Claims upon Death	£2,373,688
Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus	£437,347

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CONTRIBUTIONS will be THANKFULLY RECEIVED by the Treasurer, V. G. M. Holt, Esq., 17, Whitehall-place; at the Bankers, National Provincial Bank of England, 212, Piccadilly; by the Secretary, Mr. William A. Blake; or by the Hon Secretary, Colonel J. W. F. Sandwith.

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 14.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The week has been one of much anxious watching for news from the Soudan; and a plentiful supply of news has been forthcoming, though it is perhaps rather difficult to distinguish how much of it is due to the *perfervidum ingenium* of the special correspondent, how much really represents a solid substratum of fact. This is specially the case with that which is the central point of interest—the fate of General GORDON himself. The current report, which does not as yet rest on any official information, is that, on the day of the

fall of Khartoum he was treacherously stabbed by his own people as he came out of his house on the first alarm of the enemy's presence within the gates. That the gates themselves were opened by FARAGH Pasha, whose life he had spared when justly forfeited by a previous attempt at treachery, all reports seem to agree; but the streets swimming with blood and the children spitted by Arab spears are, we would fain hope, the ornamental fringe of a story sad enough in itself to dispense with sensational adornment. A remarkable telegram received from Lord WOLSELEY states that the Mudir of DONGOLA and all the natives in camp persist that Khartoum has not fallen, and some shadow of a shade of hope has thus been excited; but we fear that Sir CHARLES WILSON'S positive statement is too clear for doubt as to the fall of the town. It has been pointed out that he could not from the river have seen the Mission House which GORDON had prepared as his last refuge, so that his narrative is not inconsistent with the belief strongly expressed by many of the General's friends that he is still holding out there. But we must not overlook the copy-letter from the Governor of BERBER found on the battlefield of Kerbekan, which announces positively the death of GORDON. So that, on the whole, we have small ground for hope, and none at all for confidence.

One cause of anxiety has been removed by the gallant rescue of WILSON from his dangerous position on the island where he took refuge after the wreck. This brilliant exploit was performed by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD after a fashion which would have delighted the heart of a NELSON or a DUNDONALD. The running fight maintained by the little steamer with the large number of the enemy who lined the river bank, the calm anchoring under fire to repair the boiler, will long hold their place in the annals of our naval history. Sir CHARLES WILSON himself marched down the right bank of the river, and was picked up by the steamer and safely conveyed to Gubat. Thence he made a hasty journey to Korti—and that he should have been able to do so is a significant fact—where he reported to Lord WOLSELEY the result of his visit to Khartoum: a very different result, alas! from that contemplated when he left Gubat high with hope.

Meanwhile, the force which started by the riverway under General EARLE has been pressing on amid very great difficulties of transport, which seem to justify General STEPHENSON'S protest against the adoption of that method of relieving Khartoum which Lord WOLSELEY has been sent to carry out. These difficulties, however, are being faced with energy and determination, though the progress made is very slow, and it must be some time before our troops reach Berber, even if the result of the brilliant victory which they have achieved is, as is somewhat sanguinely hoped, to open the road to their destination without further fighting. The victory of Monday has been dearly purchased by the loss of the gallant commander—a true soldier, who fell at the head of the Black Watch while carrying at the point of the bayonet the strong position held by the enemy. General BRACKENBURY has succeeded to the command of the force, and, being well acquainted with the plans of his late commander, is proceeding to carry them out with no less energy. The loss of the enemy was very great, the few who escaped taking to the river as their only means of safety.

The continued onward movement of poor EARLE'S force was the first practical intimation that the Government had determined to prosecute the military operations, and the result of a series of Cabinet Councils has been that Lord WOLSELEY has been instructed to take vigorous measures, not only in the event of his learning that GORDON is still alive, but also in the event of the report of his death being confirmed. It has also been resolved to despatch a further force by the Souakim-Berber route; and, by a kind of irony of fate, General GRAHAM has been appointed to take up from the beginning the work which he had more than half done last year. The Guards are to start early next week, the Indian regiments are already designated, and, despite Mr. MORLEY and Mr. COURTNEY, the Ministry are really showing vigour in their preparations to accomplish at an enormous expense and after much waste of valuable life what poor GORDON urged upon them should be done at a time when it might have been done at comparatively small expense, and before so many valuable lives—we fear including his own—have been wasted.

While the unexpected vigour shown by the Government in the preparation of a force to send to the Soudan and open out the Souakim route to Berber is gratifying evidence of a tardy awakening to a sense of the real exigencies of the case on the part of those who are responsible for the hitherto profitless loss of life in Africa, it awakes certain reflections not altogether so gratifying. To furnish that force it has been necessary to call out all the available strength at our disposal, and though we may, we hope, dismiss as a weak invention of the enemy the statement that was at first made that there was not to be found in all England four squadrons of cavalry available for foreign service, it cannot be doubted that the expeditionary force under General GRAHAM has only been got together by reducing our home and, we fear, our Indian establishments to a minimum. We have no desire to play the part of alarmists, still less to say anything which may seem to be a protest against our tardy efforts to do what is right in regard to the Soudan. But at the same time it is not a pleasant reflection that in order to do what is right there we have had to draw upon our garrison of India, already reduced far below its proper strength, and to use all our home battalions that are fit for active service. It is just possible that between the acts at the Criterion the thought may have suggested itself to Mr. GLADSTONE of what we should do if Russia took advantage of all our available force being locked up in the Soudan to carry out her designs upon India; if Germany took advantage of all our available force being locked up in the Soudan to enforce with a strong hand her policy of annexation; if France took advantage of all our available force being locked up in the Soudan to avenge Waterloo, taking as a pretext our tardy refusal to allow our Chinese settlements to be used as a base for her operations against the Celestial Empire. In any of these events—and not any one of them is altogether impossible, though we have placed them in the order of probability—we should have to face a terrible emergency. We have a confidence in the public spirit of the country which not even Mr. GLADSTONE has been able to shake, and we trust that even in such an emergency England, despite her present Ministers, would be found worthy of herself. But the contemplation of it as the outcome of the all but despotic sway of the Grand and Great Old Man who has governed us for the last four years must somewhat temper even Midlothian enthusiasm.

Lord ROSEBERY among the preachers is perhaps the quaintest reproduction of SAUL among the prophets which the present generation has witnessed. The effect of his discourse is, however, somewhat injured by the consideration, which cannot but force itself upon his audience, that he would have drawn a very different moral from his text had Lord BEACONSFIELD, instead of Mr. GLADSTONE, been responsible for the disaster at Khartoum. The lesson which he now considers that disaster intended to teach to the nation at large would hardly have been the same in such a case, and the Liberals of Epsom—is there not a certain fitness in the congregation to which this lay sermon was addressed?—would not have been invited to look upon it as a reason for showing sympathy with the Government responsible for its occurrence. The "stocktaking" which it is supposed to suggest by Lord ROSEBERY, if honestly carried out, would reveal a state of political bankruptcy, and the "almost religious "love of peace" which he claims for the PRIME MINISTER has certainly been shown in a very remarkable manner, when we come to reckon up the number of lives for which he is responsible. If this terrible blow has been sent upon us to test our spirit and our patriotism, is not the result of that test to show how false is the mockery of spirit and of patriotism which has been displayed by Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues? Without desiring to speak irreverently, we cannot but see in Lord ROSEBERY'S speech, as in so many similar utterances, a resolute determination to attribute all the good which happens to our country—there has been very little of such good of late years so to attribute—to Mr. GLADSTONE, and all the evil to Providence. Those who keep shrieking to us at such a crisis to keep clear of party politics, and of any attempt to make political capital out of our misfortunes, must remember that the error against which they protest is committed no less by those who endeavour, in despite of the facts, to exonerate Mr. GLADSTONE from responsibility, than by those who are compelled by the facts to bring that responsibility home to him.

But while Lord ROSEBERY is thus prepared to exonerate his grand old *protégé* for the past at the expense of Providence, he shows a true sense of the responsibility for future action which rests upon the shoulders of the Government. This makes us feel a certain degree of comfort in the thought that the Grand Elector of Midlothian has joined the Cabinet. Nor is such an act on his part without a considerable degree of self-sacrifice; for never did the reputation of the Cabinet stand at a lower ebb, and in uniting himself to the most discredited body of men in the country Lord ROSEBERY has shown chivalry, if not discretion. At the present day, when there is far more of discretion than of chivalry about, we feel grateful even to a Radical peer who has the courage of his opinions. We know that on most matters those opinions are only those of his chief; but unless admittance to the Cabinet makes an altogether fatal change in Lord ROSEBERY, we may regard with hopefulness the infusion of new blood into a decaying body. He is also sound on another important question besides that of the Soudan, and Lord DERBY must have turned uneasily in that slumber which he enjoys in the Colonial Office on the news that he was to receive as one of his colleagues in the Cabinet a man who really believed in the value of colonies to England. The other Cabinet nomination is hardly so satisfactory, and has the appearance of having been made to maintain the balance of power. Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE is an energetic and capable public servant, but his recent speeches have shown that he does not altogether realise the weight of Imperial responsibility, a recognition of which is the main requisite for a present-day statesman.

It is to be hoped that the accession of so staunch a supporter of Imperial interests will do something to soothe the natural irritation against the mother country which recent Ministerial action has provoked. No doubt our colonial brethren have a difficulty in distinguishing between the mother country and those to whom, most unfortunately, her interests are at the present time entrusted. In the absence of such a distinction, we cannot wonder at the deep-rooted and loudly expressed dissatisfaction of the inhabitants of Greater Britain. To them, actually as well as technically, the Colonial Office represents English opinion; and, when they find themselves and their interests sacrificed by the Colonial Office, they not unnaturally direct their indignation against the mother country itself. It is, therefore, no matter of surprise that the dwellers in our Australian colonies should decline to view with equanimity the seizure by Germany of territory which they were prohibited from annexing when both the interests of England and the wishes of the inhabitants of that territory pointed to such an annexation. It may be that the report of the seizure of Samoa by Germany is premature, and we shall be only too glad to learn that it is not true; but if it be really true, we cannot wonder that the report should have caused intense excitement throughout New Zealand. If our colonies find their interests systematically neglected by the Home authorities, they will not unnaturally think that the time, which TURGOT says comes to every colony, for them to drop off the bough as overripe fruit, has now arrived.

The old saying that England has colonies and colonists, France has colonies but no colonists, and Germany colonists but no colonies, is in a fair way, like many old sayings, to be revised. Lord DERBY has done all that he can to falsify the first of the three branches of the statement; Prince BISMARCK is doing all that he can to falsify the last. At a time when the attention of the country was less completely engrossed than it is at present with more immediately pressing matters of interest in the Soudan, the publication of the new instalment of the Berlin White Book would have aroused a burst of indignation. Even amid the pressure of those interests it is not possible to pass it over without notice. The brutal frankness with which the German CHANCELLOR enforces his views, the hesitating politeness with which the English Minister allows these views to be enforced, are enough to startle all readers whose memory goes back to a pre-Gladstonian epoch. It is all very well for those who have served under Lord GRANVILLE, and are yet under the influence of his pleasant manners and his personal popularity, to contrast Prince BISMARCK'S use of the bludgeon and the broadsword with the graceful rapier play of the English SECRETARY for FOREIGN AFFAIRS. But when the bludgeon and the broadsword render the rapier useless the superior grace of the latter is but a poor consolation. In the end the Imperial German CHANCELLOR gets his way, and so long as he does this he is little likely to care for our criticism of the weapons by the use of which he gets it. Nor are our colonists, who see themselves sacrificed to German ambition and German dislike—not ill-founded—of our PRIME MINISTER, likely to be consoled by contrasts between the roughness and the overbearing demeanour of the triumphant party in the contest, and the smooth politeness of the vanquished party.

Lord RIPON is working hard to persuade England that he is *l'homme incompris* of our Eastern Empire, and whenever, like the Ancient Mariner, he can buttonhole some luckless wedding guests in the shape of local Radicals, he is prepared to deliver an address in favour of his policy, and to point out how great and good is the work which he has done in undermining British supremacy in India. Fortunately, he has not the same fatal gift of eloquence which has enabled his model and prototype in England to do so much harm, and he is not able to invest what he has done in the way of mischief in India with the same delusive glamour with which Mr. GLADSTONE invests what he has done in the way of mischief in other parts of the Empire. Still, the *animus decipiendi* is the same, though, injustice to Lord RIPON, we must assume that he has succeeded in deceiving himself no less completely than his great exemplar has done. Perhaps that great exemplar may blind himself to the general feeling of his countrymen at home no less completely than Lord RIPON has done to the general feeling of his countrymen in India. But in both cases it is amusing to compare the statesman's idea of himself and of his policy with the idea of them which is present to the mind of more dispassionate obrervers. It is not necessary again to formulate the grave charges against Lord RIPON'S administration of Indian affairs which have again and again been urged in these columns—not, indeed, that we claim to have originated them, but only to have re-echoed the all but unanimous voices of the Anglo-Indians. Still, it would be amusing, were it not so painful, to see how unable the late GOVERNOR-GENERAL of INDIA is to realise that these charges are not the mere product of party malice, but require to be dealt with seriously. For those who are unable to construct, it is perhaps, something to be able to destroy; and should the Radical formula "Perish India!" meet with its fulfilment in our days, Lord RIPON certainly may be credited with his share in bringing about the disastrous result.

Cardinal M'CABE, whose sudden death took place early on Wednesday morning, was a remarkable man, who can ill be spared at the present crisis in his country's history. Though he was not, like many among his fellow-members of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, especially in Ireland, anxious to leave his personal mark on the age in which his lot was cast, and was more desirous to discharge his duties to his flock quietly and unobtrusively, he never hesitated to come to the front when there was occasion, as, unfortunately, there has too often been, to protest on behalf of the Church of which he was the representative against a policy of lawless outrage, of secret assassination, and of revolutionary conspiracy. It is to be regretted that his example was not more generally followed, but the very fact that the larger number of his brother Bishops looked but coldly on his efforts in the cause of law and order, even if they did not actually oppose them, made his action all the more creditable. He had for some time the warm and cordial support of the SOVEREIGN PONTIFF; but if we may judge from some of the late utterances of the official organs of the Vatican at Rome, the sound judgment and loyal fidelity to the cause of order which the late CARDINAL displayed throughout his life had fallen out of fashion in late years. This makes us all the more regret the removal of one who, while a true son of the Church to which he belonged, recognised so clearly that his duty as a true son of that Church did not conflict with, but rather added weight to, his duties as a patriot and a loyal subject.

The debates that have taken place in the Convocation of Canterbury this week, though of great interest, do not call for any detailed comment in this place. The Bishops have referred to a Committee for consideration and report the grave issues raised by the Privy Council judgment in what is known as the Grahamstown case. The question affects the status, not only of the South African Church, but of the Colonial Churches throughout the world. Amongst the important topics that have engaged the attention of the Lower House have been those of the Housing of the Poor and the Rescue of Fallen Women, both of them subjects bearing upon some of the most pressing needs of the day.

BY WHOSE TREACHERY?

Suspense has not yet given way to certainty. What has really happened to GORDON? That is the absorbing topic of the hour. The question is asked not merely as if it solely concerned the public and national welfare. Millions in this island feel GORDON's fate to be a matter of the keenest individual and personal concern to themselves. It is the one universal topic in private circles. Go where you will, meet whom you may, it is the same everywhere and anywhere: everybody speaks of GORDON. Does that noble heart, *sans peur et sans reproche*, still beat? Is it possible that that brave, unselfish, pure-minded, chivalrous Englishman is still alive? GOD grant it may be so! The whole nation tries to believe, and hopes almost against hope, that it is so. But while, even now, we still cherish this last single ray of hope for GORDON himself, there is unhappily no reason to doubt the truth of the ghastly story of the fall of Khartoum, which with all its sickening details has come upon the country with a shock of horror unparalleled since the days of Cawnpore. True, these were not Englishmen whose blood has reddened the streets of Khartoum. They were not English women and children, these defenceless ones who have fallen before the merciless cruelty of the MAHDI's savage hordes. They were not of English blood, certainly, these poor victims; but they were the friends, all but the subjects, of England. It was for our sake that they had for nearly a whole year suffered the privations and hardships of a siege. It was to the representative of England that they so loyally clung through all that period. As he loved and watched over these poor people, so they reverenced their devoted leader, and trusted their lives and all that they had into his hands, in the belief—poor deluded souls—that he had all the might of the British Empire at his back. No, they were not English in blood; yet, if not in blood, they were English in all but in that. They remained at Khartoum under promise and pledge of our protection, and they bravely held out as our allies, hoping through a long weary year for our succour. If there is one thought that ought to embitter the heart of England at this moment, it is the consciousness that but for us this dire misery, this red ruin, need never have been wrought. The civilising mission of England—save the mark! We trust the country is proud of the manner in which it is fulfilled. These be the triumphs of Christian statesmanship: above all, of the man whom eminent divines of the Church—even this very week of all others in his career—have chosen to belaud publicly for his devotion to religion.

Khartoum has fallen, and too probably GORDON has met his death, by foul treachery. We know that now. But whose is the treachery? Whose is the hand that has basely betrayed Khartoum and GORDON too, whether he be alive or dead? Ask any impartial person in England, to-day, to answer that question. One reply, and one only, is on the lips of all men. We are entreated to abstain from "recriminations" and "revilings" at such a moment, as if the advice were necessary. What denunciations, however eloquent or severe, could rival in damnatory force the plain unvarnished story of the treatment of GORDON by the men who despatched him to Khartoum in the QUEEN's name, and then, deliberately and in cold blood, for months refused to rescue him? Their procrastination is attributed, indeed, to "incapacity;" we are invited to deplore their painful "vacillation," their unhappy "blundering," and so forth. This theory of their conduct is, we take leave to say, simply absurd. It is not borne out in the least degree by the history of past events. It amounts, in fact, to this—that we are asked and expected to believe that HER MAJESTY's Ministers, with their unrivalled sources of information, with the best obtainable advice always ready to hand, and with unequalled opportunities of judging what policy ought to be pursued, were nevertheless the only men in the whole country who were ignorant of the inevitable consequences of the course of action which they adopted with their eyes wide open. Incapacity! Vacillation! Nothing can be clearer than that they have acted throughout purposely and with a definite and consistent object in view, which was the salvation of their own party and of their noble selves as a Government. For months they obstinately declined, in the face of warnings which the whole world understood and appreciated, to do their duty by GORDON. Why did they so act? Because they wanted to maintain their own credit for economy; because they were afraid of a mutiny amongst their own followers; and, above all, because the PRIME MINISTER (who is before everything the great Christian statesman of the age) is perfectly reckless as to bloodshed, and can look on calm and unmoved while thousands of lives are sacrificed, so long as he retains office. The fate of Khartoum does not furnish a solitary case in point. Mr. GLADSTONE's behaviour now is entirely what we should have expected it to be. He can go with a gay heart to enjoy himself at the theatre on the very evening when the tragic news arrives. He is, in fact, just as happy and contented now as he was when Sinkat fell, and its inhabitants were put to a cruel death after subsisting upon dead dogs and the leaves of trees, solely because he refused them the aid which he afterwards had to confess it was his duty to have rendered them. With the same callous indifference and cruel heartlessness which allowed him to leave Sinkat to starvation and slaughter, he was prepared to treat GORDON and Khartoum. Why, then, was an expedition sent, after all, to rescue GORDON? The reason is notorious. It was undertaken, not to save GORDON, but to save the Government. Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues discovered that the country was thoroughly aroused, and that their miserable expedient—it was nothing else—for diverting attention from their own misdeeds by raising an agitation about Reform had failed in its object of blinding public opinion. That is the plain, unadorned history of the matter. The whole country well knows that it is so, and it is the reason why every respectable man in the kingdom regards the present Ministry with a detestation and loathing to which we can recall no parallel. Traitors to their allies, traitors to GORDON, traitors to their country and their QUEEN, such men as these would, in other days, have deservedly paid the penalty of their treachery, either with their heads on Tower-hill or with their necks at Tyburn.

And next week the well-worn Parliamentary farce is to begin again. Anybody can tell precisely beforehand its leading features. There will be debates on Egyptian affairs, as usual: eloquent, manly, telling speeches on behalf of the Opposition in the House of Lords; weak and vapid replies; a Vote of Censure on the Government passed by a large majority; and then, as a result—nothing. In the House of Commons a series of harangues, a few of them able, most of them the poorest kind of twaddle; a weary debate dragged on to an apparently interminable length for days or weeks; and then the accustomed edifying spectacle of Radicals pocketing their opinions to maintain their wretched faction in office, and of Irish sedition-mongers and upholders of Assassination going into the lobby to support a Ministry whom they well know to be England's worst enemies. Time was when a Government that had mismanaged national affairs, to say nothing of one that had betrayed national interests, was called upon to submit itself to the verdict of the country. That was in the old days when we had a working Constitution. We have changed all that now. Our Constitution is in these days as good as suspended, and everything is at the mercy of the irresponsible and half-insane demagogue whom the British people, in its folly, chose to elevate into power five years ago. Only five years ago! and yet it is more like fifty years than five for the amount of mischief that has been done in the time. We have nothing to recommend but patience and resignation. As far as we can see, Lord ROSEBERY is right in a certain sense, when he assures us that our present troubles are sent us as an affliction and a trial. They may indeed be viewed as a heavy chastisement for the many sins of this nation; for never was a people visited with a heavier scourge than England under the curse of her present rulers.

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

At a late hour last night the fate of General GORDON was still open to considerable doubt. It is quite true that the MAHDI's letter to the Emir of BERBER, discovered in the saddle-bag of an Arab who had fallen in the recent battle on the Nile, appears at first to establish the sad fate of GORDON's death, and to confirm not only the story told to Sir CHARLES WILSON on board his steamer by an Arab chief, but also the impression of Sir CHARLES WILSON himself, who saw no flag flying on the Government House at Khartoum, and thought it had the appearance of being wrecked. Against this we have to set the following considerations:—first, that the statements of GORDON's death all come from Arab sources, that they are inconsistent with the other Arab story of his capture as a prisoner, and that the Arabs are notorious liars; secondly, that the MAHDI's motive for lying to the Emir of BERBER might well have been to encourage his adherents in that place, while his object in trying to deceive Sir CHARLES WILSON is obvious enough; thirdly, that if GORDON were dead, the MAHDI's troops at Khartoum would have been set free to act against our garrison at Gubat; and, lastly, that the Mudir of DONGOLA, and the natives in the neighbourhood of Korti, still persist in believing that GORDON is alive, although they have always hitherto proved to be well informed of what was going on. In addition to these considerations we have the testimony of Colonel MESSEDAGLIA BEY, an intimate friend of GORDON, who is well acquainted with Khartoum, and states that GORDON had strongly fortified and provisioned the Catholic Mission-House as a possible final stronghold, and that this building is not visible from any point on the Nile reached by Sir CHARLES WILSON's steamer. We do not attempt to balance these probabilities. While we do not abandon the last faint hope that GORDON may yet live, we fear that the worst may be only too true.

Two events of the last few days are full of encouragement. The first is the account of the admirably plucky manner in which Lord CHARLES BERESFORD rescued Sir CHARLES WILSON and his men. It was a most brilliant exploit, worthy of the brave sailor who performed it, and worthy of the nation in whose service it was done. The other cheering intelligence is that of the victory, after a battle of five hours' duration, of General EARLE's division on the Nile, won close to the spot where Colonel STEWART and Mr. POWER were murdered. The battle of Kirbekan will be specially remembered for the magnificent manner in which the "Black "Watch" and the Staffordshire regiment advanced to attack the enemy at close quarters, over ground of the most difficult character possible. The joy of the country is dashed with sorrow for the loss of the brave General, who, charging at the head of his troops, met his death in the hour of victory. It is hoped that the road to Berber is now open for the rest of the way—a most important consideration, not only because Berber will be the objective point of General GRAHAM's expedition from Souakim, but also because we must hold Berber before a junction can be effected between General BRACKENBURY, who has succeeded to General EARLE's command, and General BULLER, who commands at Metammeh. The country is now anxiously waiting to hear that Metammeh is in our hands, and an attack upon it will probably be made either to morrow or within the next few days. Meanwhile the most active preparations are in progress for sending out large reinforcements to the Soudan. Urged on by public opinion, which has been aroused to the greatest indignation by the news from Khartoum, the Radical Government finds itself compelled to take the necessary steps for asserting British supremacy in the Soudan, and to incur an enormous expenditure which would never have been needed if Ministers had months ago simply tried to do their duty instead of thinking of their own political interests. As might have been expected, there is a loud outcry in the country from the provincial Radicals, who have been assured again and again by Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues that their policy was expressed by the words "Rescue "and Retire." From the Radical point of view the protests now made by Mr. MORLEY and Mr. COURTNEY are perfectly justifiable. "Your "policy," they argue, "was stated emphatically "to be to rescue General GORDON, and then to "leave the Soudan. It is out of your power to "rescue him now, and therefore, on your own "showing, you have no further business in the "Soudan, and are bound to come away at once. "To persist in remaining there merely in order "to slaughter the Arabs is in the highest "degree criminal." On the premisses originally laid down by Ministers themselves, the argument is simply unanswerable. To go to the Soudan simply to kill thousands of natives and sacrifice our own brave soldiers, and then to leave it directly, would be a piece of wicked and wanton bloodguiltiness. This is precisely what Mr. GLADSTONE's Government did a year ago on the Red Sea coast. The only thing that can and does justify our action both in Egypt and the Soudan is an intention to remain there until we have provided both countries with a permanent and satisfactory settlement for the future. This, as we believe, is what the nation has now determined shall be done, and done thoroughly.

Another noteworthy feature of the situation is the offer made by Italy to aid this country in performing the task of pacification in the Soudan. No doubt it is gratifying enough to Englishmen to find that there really is one nation in the whole world that is animated by a friendly feeling towards them. It is, however, quite obvious—and the remark is made without the least thought of giving offence to the Italian people—that the motives which actuate the Government of a great nation are not merely sentimental. The Italians themselves admit that they have their own interests in view as well as ours. It is always pleasant to be able to serve your neighbours while doing yourself a benefit; and we will do the Italians the justice to say that we sincerely believe in their professions of friendship for England. Still, it is quite certain that, not even for the sake of our alliance, would they make so large a sacrifice as that which they propose, unless they felt quite sure that Italy was to get something by it. To suppose otherwise would be, indeed, to ignore the rules which govern political action. What, then, are Italy's aims and objects; and is their realisation consistent with the attainment of our own? Probably her chief wish is to get a footing of some kind in Africa, and to acquire *prestige* amongst the Moslem populations, with a view to future action in Tripoli. The point our Government has to consider is whether that is a desire which it is to our interest to see gratified. But besides this aspect of the matter, there remains also the question whether the spectacle of the British Empire confessing its inability to vanquish a barbarous foe like the MAHDI without the aid of a foreign Power would be one that was calculated to raise us in the estimation of the world, and especially of our own Mahommedan subjects in India.

THE TORY PARTY AND IRELAND.

The appeal which Sir CHARLES GAVAN DUFFY has addressed to English Conservatives in the pages of the *National Review* is in several respects deserving of attention. With much that he urges we can without hesitation concur. That the Tory Party should rest upon as broad a basis as possible we hold to be in the highest degree desirable. In these days all upholders of Law, Order, and Authority should unite together to resist the destructive forces of Revolution and Anarchy. We feel ourselves in no way precluded as staunch Churchmen and Tories from welcoming the co-operation of Wesleyan Methodists or of Scottish Presbyterians in opposing measures like the Incest Bill and the Bradlaugh Relief Bill, and in resisting the extension of a godless system of Education. And we must even own to having witnessed with satisfaction the determined stand made against Irish Sedition by the Orange Society. With Roman Catholics, however, English Conservatives have always been in intimate accord on the fundamental principles of loyalty and obedience to authority. The Revolutionary movement abroad, which has made the Church on the Continent the special object of its attacks, the Tory Party has always held in abhorrence. The Conservative Cabinet of 1859 is known, in accordance with the constant Tory tradition, to have desired the maintenance of the Temporal Power of the Head of the Roman Communion. At home, on such questions as those of Education and the Parliamentary Oath, the alliance between Tories and Roman Catholics has been steadily maintained to this day. Sir CHARLES DUFFY reminds us how this alliance has affected the hereditary policy of the Tory Party towards Ireland. PITT projected the complete Emancipation of the Roman Catholics, and when Emancipation came at last, more than a generation later, it was the Tories who carried it. A Conservative Attorney-General for Ireland, Sir JOSEPH NAPIER, made a vigorous effort in 1852 to settle the land question. The Tory Party were the first to take in hand the subject of middle-class education in Ireland; and it was the Tories, led by Mr. DISRAELI and Lord CAIRNS, who proposed an acceptable solution of the difficulty about the Queen's Colleges. From this recital of the many attempts on the part of English Tories to do justice to Ireland, Sir CHARLES DUFFY proceeds to infer that there is no inherent reason why, in his own words, "it "should be impossible for English Conser-"vatives to settle the Irish question." When we come to inquire what he means by a settlement of the Irish question, we find it is the concession of Home Rule. And here Sir CHARLES, adverting to the fact that it was in each case a Tory Government that gave both Canada and Australia Parliamentary institutions, asks why Home Rule should not also be conceded to Ireland, and conceded by the Conservative Party?

In the first place, then, we deny altogether that there is any parallel between the case of Ireland and that of the Colonies. It was obviously impracticable to grant Parliamentary institutions to the Colonies unless they were to have Parliaments of their own. No such necessity exists in respect to Ireland. There is no more reason why Ireland should have

Home Rule than Scotland or Wales, or (for that matter) Yorkshire or Ulster. But Sir Charles Duffy's chief contention is that the Irish people are in a chronic state of misery and distress; that they are living under a tyranny; that these evils can only be removed by legislation; and that the legislation required will never be obtained without Home Rule. Now the only accurate item in this statement is the first. The rest are a mass of baseless assumption. The distress that unhappily always prevails in Ireland has its origin, not in bad or oppressive laws, but in natural causes which no legislation can touch. To read Sir Charles Duffy's denunciation of Ireland's wrongs, one would imagine that the record of the last seventeen years had been wiped out of the book of history. Is it nothing that the Irish Church has suffered deprivation of its privileges and spoliation of its property?—nothing that twice within eleven years the property of the landlords has been confiscated by Land Acts of the most drastic character, supplemented by an Arrears Act conceived on the same principles?—nothing that a vast political revolution has just been consummated by the transfer of the whole voting power of the country into the hands of poverty and ignorance?—nothing that, under the new Redistribution scheme Ireland is to be favoured far above either England or Scotland? Sir Charles Duffy calmly ignores these concessions to Irish opinion, and continues to bewail the wrongs of Ireland. What more instructive instance could be given of the insatiable character of Irish demands? It is not surprising that it should be so. The very fact that Ireland is just as dissatisfied as ever goes to prove the truth of what we urged just now—the futility of legislation as a remedy for her ills. What the true remedy may be we cannot here stop to discuss. It is open to question whether it is to be found in Emigration. For our part, we see much more to hope for from a wise encouragement and development of Irish industries. A striking instance of what can be done in this way is afforded by the successful results of Lady Burdett-Coutts's efforts to promote the fishing trade on the west coast of Ireland. Something too, perhaps, might be effected on the lines of Mr. W. H. Smith's proposals for the establishment of a peasant proprietorship. These matters are mentioned merely to illustrate the main fact, that Irish distress is not caused by unjust laws, or tyranny, or want of fair play; that it cannot be remedied by legislation; and that the demand for Home Rule is absolutely unwarranted.

But this brings us, after all, to the point upon which, more than on any other, we join issue with the author of this appeal to English Conservatives. He has assumed throughout his argument that the Irish question of to-day is that of Home Rule; in other words, that Ireland simply demands the establishment of a Parliament of her own. But the present agitation means much more than this. It means complete and absolute separation from Great Britain—the establishment of Irish Independence. Home Rule is only sought as a stepping-stone, and a very safe one, to gain that end. Everybody in England knows that this is the real situation now, whatever it may have been once. What we have to face to-day in Ireland is Sedition—Sedition which has fattened and waxed bold on the encouragement given to it by English Radicalism. Sir Charles Duffy tells us of a "serener Ireland," a "sober, silent Irish nation," that disapproves of Treason. We are sorry we see no signs of its existence, and on the contrary a great many signs of its non-existence. Englishmen have witnessed with the greatest regret the gradual dwindling away of any indications that the cause of order in Ireland would receive the support of Irish Catholics. The lamented death this week of Cardinal M'Cabe almost gives the final blow to those hopeful anticipations. The Irish people, as a whole, appear to have been utterly demoralised by the Radical policy of Plunder. Socialist legislation has encouraged greed, and Rebellion and Revolution are eagerly welcomed as means for its gratification. Sir Charles Duffy positively predicts that the concession of Home Rule will inevitably come. If it does, we can at least assure him with equal confidence that its advent will not be promoted by the Tory Party in England.

THE SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET.

The expenditure of the School Board for London advances by leaps and bounds. Last week the Bill for the year 1885-6 was presented to the astonished members, of whom many evidently had no idea that it would be so very heavy. Like inexperienced travellers, when staying at an inn, they have been ordering a great variety of luxuries without duly counting the cost. And hence we have had recently the edifying spectacle of a discussion respecting certain estimates raised at the Board by one of the very men who have for some years been most reckless in extravagance.

This gentleman is Mr. Stanley, Chairman of the School Management Committee, which is mainly responsible for the very heavy addition of expenditure for the coming year. Mr. Stanley and his followers have elaborated a costly scheme of education for the young boys and girls employed as pupil teachers by the Board. By this wonderful scheme those pupil teachers are to be divided into two classes. One half of them are not to be required to teach at all, and the other half will be asked to teach only on four days in each week. For all these fortunate young persons highly paid instructors are to be provided, and the work of training which they were engaged to do will have to be done by other paid assistants, whose salaries will be about £90 a year each. The upshot of this grand scheme for educating pupil teachers at the expense of the ratepayers comes to this, that we find an addition to the charge for maintaining schools in the coming year amounting to the startling sum of one hundred and forty-two thousand pounds.

This enormous addition in a single year is mainly due to the marvellous scheme above described—a scheme framed by some of the most doctrinaire and Radical members upon the Board.

These gentlemen hope by this scheme to accomplish the extinction of most of the training colleges, which they very cordially detest and fear, because in these places of education there is yet given some definite religious instruction without the intervention of any conscience clause. The bold and sagacious man who seconded Mr. Stanley's amendment was one Dr. Gladstone, an amiable enthusiast, who glories in belonging to no religious denomination in particular, and seems anxious to be considered a kind of modern eclectic philosopher. This worthy gentleman defended the new scheme and its extravagant expenditure with the argument that the London pupil teachers would not hereafter care to go to any training college, "seeing "they would know more than the colleges "could teach them." We may perhaps be pardoned for expressing a doubt as to the correctness of the worthy Doctor's anticipations; but we owe him thanks for so clearly telling us what is the ulterior object that he and his friends have in view. It is the painless extinction of training colleges by a side movement. He does not openly assail them; but he stealthily creeps towards his object by providing, as he imagines, a complete system of instruction for pupil teachers during the time when they are still apprentices under the Board, and when by the very articles of their indentures they ought to be engaged in teaching the scholars during five days in the week. Instead, however, of teaching the scholars in the Board schools, they are themselves to be taught; and during the time they are receiving instruction at the cost of the ratepayers they are at the very same time to be regularly receiving wages. And further, the work which they were engaged to perform will have to be done by additional teachers, who would not otherwise be needed at all. There never was a more extravagant scheme than this: which the Board has foolishly and rashly sanctioned. Upon two other items the increase of expenditure for the coming year is alarmingly heavy. Upon the salaries paid to teachers the augmentation will amount to no less a sum than thirty-five thousand pounds. Such an augmentation as this ought not to surprise anybody who has watched the rates of payment of late years offered by this Board to Elementary schoolmasters and schoolmistresses. We hear, for example, of salaries ranging from three to five, or even six, hundreds a year; and if one of these pedagogues happen to be also a teacher of some of the sciences at an evening class, he may make seven or eight hundreds a year from his profession. Another item that stands out prominently among the augmentations of expenditure is "interest and repay-"ment of loans," which amount now to forty-three thousand pounds.

The total amount payable as interest on loans is three hundred and thirty thousand pounds per annum, and will soon be four hundred thousands. This interest is due upon six millions of debt already incurred in building schools, many of them not needed. We learn upon the authority of the Chairman of the Finance Committee that before Christmas next the Board will borrow the further sum of eight hundred thousand pounds, which will bring up the debt nearly to seven millions, with the prospect of an additional half million being borrowed in the year 1886!

In concluding this part of his melancholy statement, the Chairman of the Finance Committee calmly warned his hearers that it was "obvious that the amount required each year "for interest and repayment of loans would "steadily increase for many years to come." We are thus distinctly informed that our burdens will be considerably augmented as years roll on. The rate for the coming year will amount nearly to tenpence in the pound, and in a few years it is estimated by experts that it will reach fifteenpence in the pound at the least. The extravagance of this amount is conspicuous by comparison with the rate levied in such towns as Liverpool and Manchester. In those towns the Boards have not been smitten with a consuming desire to swallow up all the Voluntary schools within their reach. They have, on the contrary, maintained friendly relations with the managers of those schools, and in many ways have co-operated with them in the common work of promoting Elementary education. In those towns the rate has not exceeded threepence in the pound. Sir Richard Temple was, therefore, thoroughly justified in telling the London School Board that the ratepayers of the metropolis would deem the rate in London excessive. We hope that the ratepayers generally will make up their minds to return next November a considerable number of new members to the Board pledged to exercise economy and commonsense. In almost every department of the Board's complex ramifications there is ample room for retrenchment and reform—those quondam idols of the Radicals. Whether we regard the salaries paid to architects, inspectors, solicitors, registrars, correspondents, clerks, superintendents, drill-sergeants, music-masters, French-masters, &c., or the prodigious sums frequently paid for sites, we see in all directions innumerable signs of the facility with which public money may be squandered by a body of men and women, of whom many have had no experience whatever in the various kinds of business which they have rashly and ignorantly undertaken to manage.

It may be sufficient to point to one item of expenditure only, which seems on the very face of it to be extravagant and excessive—we allude to the item for repairs and alterations to school-buildings. It amounts to thirty thousand pounds a year. Surely some economy is possible here, for the schools are all new, and having been recently built in the most expensive and solid manner, ought not so soon to stand in need of heavy repairs. The truth is, there does not happen to be any real and effective check upon the various items of the Board's expenditure. The members have neither time, ability, nor inclination for this kind of work.

It is easy to sit in a council chamber on the Embankment and vote away in a single afternoon many thousands of pounds out of other people's pockets, but it is a very different thing to carefully superintend the expenditure of that money, and see that every penny is legitimately expended to the very best advantage. It is owing to the vastness of the Board's operations that so much leakage and waste are possible. If Mr. Forster's original plan of having a separate School Board for each of the ten Parliamentary Boroughs in London had been adopted, there would have been a far better chance of economy and good management than is at all possible under the huge and unwieldy system which exists to day.

The blundering extravagance of the London School Board forms one of the very strongest arguments against the preposterous scheme for placing the whole metropolitan area under the rule of one central municipality. The opportunities and temptations to jobbery on an extensive scale would be enormous, and the means and chances of detection would be small indeed; whilst the sleepy routine and easy indifference of an army of officials, all interested in maintaining and augmenting a high rate of expenditure, would place the unhappy ratepayer entirely at the mercy of those very officials who would be drawing their comfortable quarterly salaries from his attenuated purse.

The extravagance, inefficiency, and pompous pretentiousness of the London School Board may at least be made to serve as warnings against instituting another Metropolitan Board based on similar foundations and exposed to still greater dangers and temptations.

The terrible results, both mental and physical, arising from overtaxing the ill-nourished brains of children of the poorer class are quite notorious. The existence of this overpressure has been established on evidence of the clearest and most cogent kind. The testimony of competent witnesses is indeed overwhelming, and is borne out by the opinion of medical men of the highest reputation. Public opinion has expressed itself pretty strongly on the cruelty as well as the scientific absurdity of requiring tasks of so severe a character from children who are incapacitated for severe mental efforts, not only by hereditary causes, but also by insufficiency of good and wholesome diet. Most people are now agreed that something should be done to moderate the rigour of educational enthusiasm in this respect.

Not so, however, thinks Mrs. S. Bryant, D.Sc., who has recently published a pamphlet on the subject under the title of *Overwork: From the Teacher's Point of View*. Mrs. Bryant is one of those vigorous, not to say strong-minded, ladies who take care to let it be understood that they intend to stand no nonsense. This agitation against overpressure she promptly denounces as "the overwork panic." It is an attack by the medical profession on the scholastic profession, which, as representing the latter, Mrs. Bryant is determined to repel. She cordially agrees with the uncompromising theory that "you cannot overwork most boys, however hard you try;" except that she extends the application of this cheerful maxim to girls as well. The fact is not to be gainsaid, indeed, that children in many cases suffer from severe headaches, arising, so doctors say, from overwork. Mrs. Bryant does not deny the headaches, but traces the effect to another cause. Idle children, it appears, "take to headaches or other forms of suffering, go under medical treatment, and are labelled 'overworked.'" This appears to be, in fact, Mrs. Bryant's favourite way of accounting for these phenomena. The girl who does not work "has a headache, and it grows by being extravagantly attended to." The "possibility of escape from even the appearance of work" encourages the child; the headache increases, then the doctor is called in and "agrees to the overwork idea," and the thing is done. *Voilà tout!* These headaches and other ailments are often either "imaginary," or else arise from "temper, obstinacy, self-indulgence, and, above all, indolence," and are by no means to be "petted and acquiesced in."

So now we see how these effects are produced: headaches, nervous irritability, insomnia, brain fever—even death. Doctors either know nothing about it, or perhaps are actuated by a mean and unworthy jealousy against a noble profession. They persist in connecting the growth of these evils with the increased educational pressure of the last few years. But Mrs. Bryant shows that they are quite wrong. It is all the fault of the children themselves, who, it is clear, insist on getting ill out of sheer "obstinacy." As Mrs. Bryant says, they "take to" headaches and other maladies. Some of them, indeed, actually have the amazing impudence to die—just to spite the School Board authorities, no doubt. Such exhibitions of "temper" should of course be sternly repressed. What is really required is greater firmness. We must not yield to the "morbid fear" of making the children ill. The undue attention now given to these physical symptoms is, Mrs. Bryant assures us, "fostered by continual remarks and warnings on the subject of health." Such a "fashion"—it is no more—is just now in vogue; but "nothing can be more deleterious to the growth of a happy, harmonious balance of activities and enjoyment." We are really very much obliged to Mrs. Bryant. By her plain-speaking she has let in a flood of light, if not on the proper remedy for all this suffering, at least on the motives of those who cause it. The public will now be acquainted with the spirit in which educational work is being carried out in certain quarters, and will insist that measures shall be taken accordingly.

Reviews.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

We have dealt at length in our leading columns with Sir C. Gavan Duffy's "Appeal to the Con-"servative Party" in the *National Review*. Its fundamental assumption, that the Irish people are suffering from tyrannical and oppressive laws, is absolutely baseless. Mr. "Thomas Tantivy" gives us an account of a political after-dinner argument, which takes the form of a triangular duel between a Conservative and representatives of the old and the new Radicalism. Mr. George Baden Powell, under the title of "Our National "Future," makes another contribution to the discussion of the question how best to adapt the executive and legislative machinery of government to the needs of the Empire. He holds that certain measures should be taken at once—namely, the establishment of a joint Grand Committee of both Houses of Parliament for Colonial affairs and of a Grand Committee for Home affairs; the institution of a Home Budget, as distinct from an Indian and Imperial one; the development of local, municipal, and county government in Great Britain and Ireland; the formation of a Colonial Council and of a special Ministerial department for defending the communications of the Empire; and the appointment of a new Minister of the Crown for our self-governing colonies. Mr. Kebbel, in his series of "Tory Prime

"Ministers," has reached Mr. Canning. Lord Carnarvon offers a new rendering of Hadrian's "Address to his Soul," which we like better than any of the former attempts in the same field. The other papers are—a good one on "Gainsborough," by Mr. Walter Armstrong; some sensible remarks on the use and abuse of stimulants and narcotics, by Mr. Percy Greg; "Caucus and Camorra," by Mr. T. A. Trollope; two dramatic criticisms on Miss Anderson's "Juliet" and on Ophelia's madness respectively; and a reply to "A Woman's Protest" in a former number.

The leading feature in *Harper* this month is Mr. Lucy's article on "Hatfield House and the "Marquis of Salisbury," which is illustrated by some fairly well-executed though rather scrappy woodcuts. To represent the evidently temporary arrangements for the electric light in the view of the Marble Hall strikes us as rather an unnecessary piece of literalism. And while Mr. Lucy is telling us of Queen Elizabeth's hat, why should he omit all mention of her celebrated silk stockings, which were exhibited at the "Healtheries" last year? He might, too, have said a word about an oak-tree at Hatfield even more remarkable than that called after Queen Elizabeth—the "Lion Oak," said to have been mentioned as a landmark in Domesday Book. There are one or two odd mistakes, which, in the case of so well-known a house, Mr. Lucy need not have made. The great bronze statue of James I. and the grand chimney-piece in which it stands are not in King James's bedroom, but in the great Drawing-room. Old engravings show the present Armoury to have been originally an open cloister, the arcading being devoid of tracery; and the large Turkish incense-braziers stand, not in the Long Gallery, but in the Armoury. It would take us too long to mention all Mr. Lucy's omissions; but the historical portraits, especially those of Philip, Mary Tudor, and Elizabeth, deserve some mention in any sketch of Hatfield, and the Chapel, too, is not altogether unworthy of notice. Mr. L. L. Hunt's well-written account of General Montgomery has some good illustrations. "Pull-"man: a Social Study" gives a description of a town of nearly 9,000 inhabitants situated ten miles from Chicago, now just four years old, and interesting as being the most extensive experiment yet made on the co-operative system. We are pleased with the paper on "The New and Old in "Yucatan"—a country strewn with ruins of buildings of a remote antiquity. Merida, the capital, was founded by the Spaniards in 1542 on the site of an ancient Mexican city, the houses being built chiefly in the Moorish style. Two ruined cities are specially described—Uxmal, with the remains of its famous palaces, notably of that named Las Monjas, which contains 122 apartments, and the sanctuaries of which were once defiled with human sacrifices; and Izamal, with the sites of its great temples still well marked. Curious details are given of some of the heathen customs still observed among the Indians. The illustrations to this paper are excellent. "An "Art Student in Ecouen" is rather disappointing. It tells us much of M. Edouard Frère and other resident artists, but very little of Ecouen itself. The article on "The Lick Observatory" will be read with special interestby those readers of the *Edinburgh* who have studied the admirable account of mountain observatories given in the number for last October. Those who desire some very solid reading ought to be satisfied with the essay on "Federal Union," the author of which promises—or threatens—a second instalment. One of the best papers in the number has still to be mentioned, that on "Guardian Birds," which is full of the most curious information. Besides all these articles, this capital magazine contains two complete stories, parts of another, and also of a novel, five poems, and a frontispiece of "The Mermaid "and the Seawolf."

Blackwood (as in duty bound) begins with George Eliot, who won her spurs in its pages, and owed much to the kindness of the friendly John. The writer is wise enough to keep to the works, leaving the life and letters to more suitable panegyrists. Lady Martin contributes another of her charming papers on Shakespeare, but this time it is Beatrice and Co. The bright and joyous lady is perhaps a little overcrowded. "The Waters of Hercules" continue to flow, and a new spring of fiction is opened in "Plain Frances "Mowbray." Mr. Gladstone's "Foreign and "Colonial Failures" are exposed with no undue severity. The paper on the "Nile Expedition" indicates a terrible bill of costs, while the "Black "Year for Investors" shows the country to be getting decidedly poorer year by year. There will soon be so little to invest that "National "Insurance" may become an anachronism. Meantime it is shown that our national defences are only a provocation to attack.

In the *Argosy* "The Mystery of Allan Grale" does not abate in interest; but we dislike the illustration. "Among the Welsh" is a pleasant description of an ordinary trip. The woodcuts are fairly good in themselves, but spoilt by the letterpress behind them. Being evidently taken from photographs, they rather lack picturesqueness. "A Glove's Evidence" is a good story, sensibly told, without any attempt to spin it out. Altogether the number is a good one.

We learn that Messrs. Cassell and Company have made arrangements to include an illustrated descriptive account of the campaign now proceeding in the Soudan in *Recent British Battles*, by Mr. James Grant, the issue of which has just been commenced in monthly parts.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to accept a copy of the first volume of *Eastward Ho!*

BY THE M—Q—S OF H—T—G—N.

Joe Chamberlain, my jo, Joey
Sin' first we cam thegither
We've wrastled weel to seem like freens,
And thole wi ane anither.
But noo I fain wad fling you aff,
Sin' ye sae bauldly show
Your communistic politics,
Joe Chamberlain, my jo.

Joe Chamberlain, my jo, Joey
Ye gie your helpin han'
To chiefs that will your siller clutch
The whiles they grab the lan'.
An' gin we're plundered o' our gear,
Baith you and I maun go
To "toil and spin" as best we may,
Joe Chamberlain, my jo.

—*St. James's Gazette.*

MONEY MARKET.

Friday.

Consols closed at 99 to 99¼ for Money, and 99 3-16 to 99 5-16 for the Account.

The forty-ninth annual meeting of the members of the National Provident Institution will be held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Friday, Feb. 27, at twelve o'clock.

The twenty-first ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the London and General Water Purifying Company (Limited) was held yesterday (Friday) afternoon at the offices of the company, 157, Strand, when a most satisfactory report and balance sheet were presented, the directors declaring the usual dividend of 5 per cent. (free of income tax) on the paid-up capital of the company, while it was shown that, notwithstanding the general depression of trade, the company was in a most flourishing condition.

THE LATE SIR R. PHILLIMORE.

The *Guardian* publishes, under the easily recognised initials "H.P.L.," a striking tribute to the memory of the late Sir Robert Phillimore, from which we subjoin several extracts. We need hardly say that we by no means share the writer's feelings with regard to Sir Robert Phillimore's Gladstonism, which was always his weakest point. After observing that "in him the country has lost a disinterested and able public servant, the Church of England a most devoted son, and his many friends one whose friendship had a charm that was all its own, and whom they will never remember while life shall last without deep and affectionate regret," the writer adverts to Sir R. Phillimore's pleadings in ecclesiastical suits. He first attracted general attention by the part he took in the Dean of York's case in 1849, when his conduct, as one of the junior counsel for the Archbishop and for his father, won the admiration of the Bar. His vigorous exertions in the case of his brother-in-law, Archdeacon Denison, and in that of Westerton *v.* Liddell, 1857, as well as his connection with the case of Poole *v.* the Bishop of London, 1859, will be remembered. In 1862 he was engaged by the plaintiffs in the *Essays and Reviews* case, Fendall *v.* Wilson, and the Bishop of Salisbury *v.* Williams; and he was counsel for Bishop Gray in Long *v.* Bishop of Capetown. His efforts in the Colenso case need not be described; suffice it to say that for many years, and until he became a judge, he was looked upon by Churchmen as their natural advocate, whether the Christianity of the Church had to be protected by law against its Rationalistic assailants, or loyalty to the plain meaning of those parts of the Prayer-Book which are unwelcome to the popular Protestantism against efforts to suppress it by a high-handed exercise of prejudiced authority.

The following allusions are to his judgments as Dean of Arches:—

"If some of these judgments are, from a Churchman's point of view, disappointing, allowance must be made for the difficulties of an accomplished ecclesiastical lawyer, who has somehow or other to adjust his knowledge to decisions imposed on him from time to time by a body so constituted as the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. No one assuredly can read this volume (his *Ecclesiastical Judgments*) without feeling himself in contact with a thoughtful and reverent mind—to which religion, and all that concerned it, was a matter of the deepest personal interest and of most careful study. The last of the Deans of the Arches filled that venerable chair under circumstances of unprecedented difficulty; but—assuredly in the general judgment of the profession whom the duties of his high office most nearly affected—he more than sustained its ancient reputation."

The memoir goes on to speak of Sir Robert's mental and literary refinement:—

"Sir Robert Phillimore was probably one of the inner group of very highly cultivated Englishmen in our day. His was the culture of the last rather than of the present generation. It was general rather than special, disinterested rather than utilitarian, trained capacity and taste rather than carefully accumulated and assorted knowledge. Even as a boy he loved the classical authors of the ancient world for their own sakes, and he read them through constantly until the last years of his life. . . Even in his last illness, when he spoke with difficulty, he would quote many lines of Homer, or long sentences of Thucydides, with perfect accuracy, hoping, but alas! too often in vain, that his quotation might be capped by some friend of a younger and less-educated generation. Nor was his literary taste restricted to the ancient world. His translation of Lessing's *Laocoon*, with notes and an introduction, is a proof of his interest in and knowledge of German literature; while he was still more at home among French and Italian authors. But it was in the great English writers, both of poetry and prose, that he chiefly took delight; he knew them, it may be said, with a sorrowful confidence, as few English gentlemen know them nowadays. To Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott and the works of Edmund Burke his retentive memory was little less than a full index; while the least-known poets of a past century, and the fine prose even of long-forgotten sermons, such as those of Bishop Smallridge, were perfectly familiar to him. Not that he was indifferent to lighter literature. In earlier life he had produced the *Memoirs and Correspondence of George Lord Lyttelton* (two vols.), and to the last he took a keen interest in biography, ... and few works of importance appeared without his making their acquaintance. 'Be sure to let me know of any new book that is really worth reading' was one of his customary parting injunctions to a friend who had paid him a visit. Their mutual love of polite letters was a great bond of friendship between Sir Robert Phillimore and the present Earl of Carnarvon; in the instance of the late Dean of Westminster, common literary interests and warm mutual appreciation could not for a moment disguise their grave differences of opinion on matters of very serious moment.

"Before all things Sir Robert Phillimore was a devoted and warm-hearted Churchman; layman and lawyer as he was, he cared more for the interests of the kingdom of God upon earth than for those of any earthly polity or party whatever. It was this which commanded the respect of so many men who have had a foremost part in guiding the English Church of our day. Bishop Wilberforce used to speak of a visit to the Coppice as one of the most helpful as well as most delightful incidents of a confirmation tour in South Oxfordshire. Bishop Hamilton would observe, 'I am not lawyer enough to understand all of my Chancellor's advice, but I have such entire belief in his goodness and high principle that I cannot hesitate to follow him.' 'People may be disappointed,' said Dr. Pusey, 'at Phillimore's judgments; but no one who knows him can doubt that he has done what he can for religion.' . . . . Nor in this connection may his warm friendship for the present Prime Minister be omitted. It began in their undergraduate days at Christ Church; it lasted without a cloud or a misgiving until the last moment of Sir Robert Phillimore's life; it was, from first to last, perfectly reciprocated . . . . Not that this friendship exacted the forfeiture of an independent judgment. Sir Robert Phillimore approved of the disestablishment of the Irish Church; but he deeply regretted the University Test Act of 1871, by which, under a plea of opening academical prizes to Dissenters, the character of Oxford as a place of Christian education was virtually abolished; since all teaching offices that might be held by laymen were thrown open to persons of any creed or of none whatever. This independence of judgment extended to subjects more purely political. 'I shall always,' he said quite lately, 'trust Gladstone; but I wish he was not associated with Chamberlain.'

"Indeed, this friendship was in its origin, and throughout, religious and moral, before it was political."

Alluding to Sir R. Phillimore's theological learning, the writer observes that his *Ecclesiastical Judgments* are said to have been criticised in his own profession as being too good theology to be good law. Certainly they give ample evidence of wide reading in the field of Anglican divinity. In earlier years he had read the schoolmen, particularly Aquinas; and in connection with his legal studies, Suarez. Above all, he was an earnest and regular student of Holy Scripture.

As regards the Anglican position, Sir Robert Phillimore was "sensitively alive to the fact that in rejecting the unwarranted claims of the Pope to an œcumenical supremacy, the English Church had practically at certain times exposed herself to the danger of being treated as a creature or function of the State; and nothing stirred his honest indignation more readily than Erastian language on the part of clergymen; nothing could be more irreligious and degrading in his judgment than a theory which would prostitute the sacred interests of religion to the demands of worldly policy or State craft."

His own religious life was "singularly simple, unaffected, sincere. It was on the Bible, the Prayer-Book, and Bishop Wilson. It found comparatively little expression in his general conversation; his reverence and his natural undemonstrativeness alike repressed any tendency to make religion a subject of common talk. But if anything was said in his presence which which aroused his sympathy, or provoked his dissent, he would at once speak out. He never allowed an inaccuracy on these sacred subjects to pass unchallenged; he never heard what he thought levity or irreverence without expressing his distress and his disapproval. Quite recently he was listening to a newspaper report of the opinions of a clergyman whom a northern Bishop had refused to present to a living in his diocese, and who apparently resolved the Godhead of our Blessed Lord and His supernatural birth of a Virgin Mother into vague conceptions which might be applicable to Christians at large. 'Stop,' said Sir Robert, 'if you please. I am too near my last hours to listen to what is blasphemy if it is not nonsense.'"

The memoir thus concludes:—

"His country seat was, indeed, the home of true religion and useful learning. . . . Yet at the Coppice literature was no foe to the simple charities of life; for miles around the name of 'Sir Robert' is a household word among the poor for incessant acts of sympathy and kindness; and everywhere, in church, and school, and home, in the hours of joy, and at the bedside of the sick and the dying, 'The Coppice' is represented and felt as an influence which softens, while it justifies, social distinctions, and leads those who suffer and those who have the high privilege of relieving suffering, alike to recognise in Christianity the combining, healing, hallowing force which modern society, whether in town or country, often so sorely needs."

"Much might be said of the social qualities of Sir Robert Phillimore—of his simple tastes, his generous estimate of character, his delicate and refined humour, the art with which he could tell a story, and the sympathy with which he could listen to one. But perhaps the great charm of his character, at least in the opinion of those who enjoyed the high privilege of his friendship, was his affectionateness. Certainly everybody was welcomed, and everybody was made to feel himself at home, in the Coppice; but the chief attractions of the place lay not in its situation and surroundings, nor even in its life of many-sided active interest, but in the bright, sunny, tender temper which presided over and illuminated all besides, and to be in contact with which was of itself at once improving and delightful.

"For such a gift men pay dearly; to feel keenly a man must suffer much. The sudden death of his brother, the Rev. Greville Phillimore, rector of Ewelme, which occurred a year before his own, was a great sorrow to him; not the less poignant because he resolutely repressed all conspicuous expressions of it.

"Four years have passed since the first warning to Sir Robert Phillimore that the end might be approaching. For some time he persevered bravely in the discharge of his judicial duties, until a moment came when he was satisfied that he could no longer discharge them to the satisfaction of his conscience. Then he retired into the country and prepared for death. Never was preparation more deliberate and tranquil, more serious, more profoundly Christian; and now that all is over it may surely be added that few lives are lived in any generation, at once more honoured by their contemporaries, and more honourable in themselves. *Have desideratissime.*"

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Standing Committee on Wednesday, February 4, the following members were present:—Lord Colchester, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Sir Richard Wilbraham, Archdeacon Burney, Canon Gregory, Canon Wingfield, the Rev. G. H. Hodson, the Rev. H. M. Villiers, Mr. Powell, Mr. Calvert, and the Rev. J. Duncan (secretary).

The Report of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Standing Committee at their meeting on July 23, 1884, was adopted as follows:—

"The Sub-Committe met on December 8, 1884, the following members being present:—The Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Colchester, Canon Gregory, Canon Wingfield, the Rev. G. H. Hodson, Mr. Powell, and Mr. Talbot. The attention of the Sub-Committee was directed mainly to certain alleged defects or imperfections in the system of examination carried on by the present Examining Board which had been reported early in the year, in the first instance to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and afterwards to the National Society. These had since been referred to the Examining Board itself for its observations upon them; and the Rev. John Menet, who was now present on behalf of the Examining Board, proceeded to lay before the Sub-Committee a statement which was, after some discussion, adopted as satisfactory in the following particulars:—

"1. That the proposal to open the entrance examination in religious knowledge to all pupil-teachers qualified for the corresponding Government examination had been negatived at a meeting of the National Society's committee on February 19 last, and that there would hereafter be the less reason for acceding to it, inasmuch as the Examining Board had agreed to alter the age fixed for the 'acting teachers' examination, and to allow all candidates of eighteen years old and upwards to be examined.

"2. That the proposal to add two diocesan inspectors to the present list of examiners was not only inexpedient as tending to impair the independence of the examination, but was likewise all but impracticable from the inability of diocesan inspectors to give so much time as is necessary for the work.

"3. That the whole of the examination papers had been submitted to the whole of the examiners before being set, since the formation of the Examining Board in 1872.

"4. That the syllabus for the admission examination had been under the consideration of the Examining Board; that they had consulted the examiners on the subject, and had also taken the opinion of all the principals of training colleges; and that after full consideration of the information thus obtained they had decided to limit very considerably the range of the examination; and, further, that the Examining Board are still of opinion, as they have always been, that it is inexpedient to name any textbook or give any specific directions for study.

"5. That in regard to the 'acting teachers' it had been decided not only to lower the limit of age to eighteen, but likewise to allow re-examination without any limitation until further notice.

"6. That there would be grave difficulties in carrying out the proposal to raise the teachers' religious knowledge certificates in accordance with the entries made on the parchment by the diocesan inspectors, and that, therefore, the adoption of that proposal was not recommended by the Examining Board. (Signed)

"Edw. Cantuar, Chairman."

Attention was called to the action of the Education Department with reference to Church Schools at Startforth, Yorkshire; Neasden, Willesden; and Middleton St. George, Durham.

It was ultimately agreed to refer the further consideration of these cases to a special meeting of the Committee to be held on Wednesday, February 25.

A letter having been received from H. Forbes Clarke, Esq., hon. secretary of the Central Council for Promoting Self-supporting Penny Dinners, inviting the Committee to nominate two of its number as members of the Central Council, it was agreed to appoint as the Society's representatives Lord Colchester and Mr. Powell.

The following resolutions were stated to have been received from the Llandaff Diocesan Conference:—

"1. That the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England demands the earnest attention of the Churchmen at the present time."

"2. That this Conference memorialise the National Society to consider how such education may best be extended to children attending schools other than National Schools."

Some discussion took place with reference to these resolutions, but owing to the vagueness of the terms in which they were expressed no conclusion was arrived at.

It was agreed to accept the trusteeship of the Church schools at Gillingham, Norfolk, and Hornton, Oxfordshire.

Consent was given to the sale of a part of the school site, on condition that the proceeds of the sale would be devoted to the purchase of another piece of ground adjoining the school to be held upon the same trusts.

The following grants were voted:—For Building and Enlarging Schools, £982; Repairs and Improvements, £101; Fittings, £1; Books, £2; Sunday Schools, £1; Diocesan Inspection, £162 10s.; Joint Book Grants, £120. Total, £1,369 10s.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. W. H. Bartholomew, Curate of Cornwood, Devon, to Vicarage of Landkey. Patron, the Bishop of Exeter.

C. S. Bere, Rector of Uplowman, Devon, to Vicarage of Morebath. Patron, Mr. M. Bere.

Rev. J. Cadwallader, to Rectory of Littleton-on-Severn, Gloucestershire.

Rev. M. C. Crofton, Curate-in-Charge of St. Peter's, Accrington, to Rectory of St. Stephen's, Bristol.

Rev. D. O. Davies, Vicar of Llandinorwic, to Rectory of Llanddeiniolen, Carnarvonshire. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. E. W. Easton, Curate of Bierley, to Vicarage of St. Luke's, Cleckheaton, Normanton. Patrons, Five Trustees.

Rev. W. H. Fea, Curate-in-Charge, of Cottingham, Yorkshire, to Chaplaincy of the Trinity House and Incumbent of the Mariners' Church, Hull.

Rev. A. J. Fletcher, to Chaplaincy of St. Raphael's Convalescent Home, Torquay.

Rev. A. W. Gray, Curate of Holy Trinity, Poulton le-Sands, Lancaster, to be Curate-in-Charge of Great Oakley, Essex.

Rev. A. Griffith, to be Curate-in-Charge of St. Mary Magdalene, Barnstaple.

Rev. J. E. Gull, Incumbent of St. John-the-Baptist, Little Hulton, to be Perpetual Curate of St. Thomas's, Pendleton. Patron, the Vicar of Eccles.

Rev. T. D. Harland, to be Incumbent of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Davyhulme. Patron, Mr. Robert Henry Norreys, of Davyhulme, for this turn alternately with the Bishop of Manchester.

Rev. J. T. Jones, Curate of Llanddaniel, to Vicarage of Llandinorwic, Carnarvonshire. Patron, Mr. G. W. Duff Assheton Smith.

Rev. T. A. Lacey, to be Public Preacher in the Diocese of Southwell.

Rev. F. E. Lowe, to Vicarage of St. Stephen's, Guernsey. Patron, the Rector of St. Peter-Port.

Rev. E. M. Mee, Fellow and Tutor of Queen's College, Oxford, to Rectory of Crawley, Hants. Patrons, Queen's College, Oxford.

Rev. L. Mercer, Curate of the Parish Church, Lambeth, to Rectory of Hawstead, Bury St. Edmunds. Patron, Mr. G. G. Milner-Gibson-Cullum.

Rev. F. W. Meynell, to Rectory of Kirk Langley, Derbyshire. Patron, the Rev. William Meynell.

Rev. H. Newton, Vicar of Great and Little Driffield, to be Prebendary of Bugthorpe, in York Minster. Patron, the Archbishop of York.

Rev. D. Rhodes, to Incumbency of St. Gabriel's, Middleton Junction. Patron, the Bishop of Manchester.

Rev. J. F. Scholfield, to be Priest-in-Charge of Inveraray, N.B. (Patron, the Bishop of Argyll), and Mission-Priest of the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Cumbrae (Patrons, the Bishop and Dean of Argyll, jointly).

Rev. J. F. Scobell, to be Public Preacher in the Diocese of Exeter.

Rev. W. Smith, to Rectory of Stainforth, near Doncaster. Patron, the Archbishop of York.

Rev. G. L. Towers, Travelling Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to Vicarage of St. Margaret-at-Cliffe. Patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Rev. W. E. Trench, Honorary Canon of Liverpool; to Vicarage of All Saints', Notting-hill. Patron, Mr. Edmund J. Walker.

Rev. A. Winnifrith, Vicar of St. Luke's, Cleckheaton; to Vicarage of Marianaleigh. Patrons, the Exeter Church Charity Trustees.

LICENCE TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF CHESTER.—Revs. George James Baillie Hamilton, B.A., to Dodleston; Rowland Francis Cobbold, M.A., to Prestbury; Godfrey Dillon, to St. Anne's Sale; Cecil Talbot Sweet Escott, M.A., to Holy Trinity, Runcorn; Herbert Leigh Mallory, M.A., to Mobberley.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—Revs. Edgar Bower Bland, B.A., to Buckland Monachorum; Reginald Hargreaves Fison, B.A., to St. Peter's, Plymouth; Henry Gibbon, B.A., to St. James's, Exeter; William Sutherden, to St. John's, Torquay; Francis Drake Young, to St. James's, Devonport.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.—Revs. J. L. Bowley, M.A., to St. John-the-Evangelist's, Cliftcn; M. D. Buckingham, M.A., to St. Mary, Redcliffe, Cristol; K. M. Pill, B.A., to St. James's, Bristol.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWELL.—Revs. Samuel Andrew, M.A., to Tideswell; George William Oxenham, to St. Alban's, Sneinton.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF TRURO.—Rev. William Corner Frost, B.A., to St. Austell.

OBITUARY.

Dec. 12, the Rev. David John French, Chaplain of Berhampore, Madras Presidency (formerly of St. Luke's, Gloucester), aged 40.

Jan. 7, at Cambrian Cottage, St. Helena, on his voyage from India to England, the Rev. Theophilus John Rawson, M.A., Government Chaplain, Bengal.

Feb. 1, at Belper, the Rev. Robert Hey, Prebendary of Lichfield, and forty years Vicar of Belper, aged 67.

Feb. 1, at Fulham, the Rev. James M. H. Strangways, A.M., sometime Rector of Baronstown, and for upwards of twenty years Vicar-Choral of Armagh Cathedral, aged 69.

Feb. 4, at Florence House, Merrion, county Dublin, the Rev. Wm. Denton Attwood, Rector of Little Bentley, Essex.

Feb. 6, at Hilderstone, Staffordshire, the Rev. R. Smythe Hopkins, M.A., Vicar of the Parish.

Feb. 7, at Weymouth, the Rev. Francis William Janvrin, of Beaumont, Jersey, and late Vicar of Great Toller, aged 52.

Feb. 7, at 45, Seymour-street, Portman-square, the Rev. Osman Parke Vincent, M.A., Rector of St. Mildred with St. Margaret Moses, Bread-street, City, E.C., aged 72.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has requested the Archdeacons of Canterbury and Maidstone to make known his wish that spiritual intercession should be made at all services in our churches for our forces and commanders, particularly for General Gordon. The prayer previously issued may be used, as well as the Collect "In Time of War," until more definite knowledge may suggest another form of intercession.

The See of Lincoln became vacant on Monday, when the Archbishop of Canterbury formally accepted the venerable Prelate (Dr. Wordsworth's) resignation.

An offer of £1,000 has been sent to the vicar of Teddington by a donor who does not wish his name made public. It is to be used in aid of the new church buildings. This is the second offer of £1,000 made to the church since the vicar's arrival in Teddington. Another anonymous donor has sent £200 for the purpose of improving and decorating the chancel of the parish church.

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have given a site whereon a new Norwich Diocesan Training College for Schoolmistresses is to be built. The college is to be erected in compliance with the requirements of the Education Department, the existing one having been condemned.

The Archbishop of York has appointed the Rev. Horace Newton, M.A., vicar of Great and Little Driffield, to the honorary canonry and Prebend of Bugthorpe, in York Minster, vacant by the death of Canon Simmons, rector of Dalton Holme, East Yorks.

The Bishop of Bedford and Bishop Tozer will undertake the London confirmations up to Easter, and the Bishop-designate will make the necessary arrangements for those after that date.

By the death of the Rev. W. Denton Attwood, the rector, the living of Little Bentley, Essex, has become vacant. The living, which is of the annual value of £650, is in the gift of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and had been held by the late rector for twelve years.

The Rev. Prebendary Harry Jones will preach at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, to-morrow (Sunday), at 11 a.m., on behalf of the Additional Curates' Society.

Last week conferences were held at Darlington, Edinburgh, and Newcastle-on-Tyne. At Darlington the Vicar presided, at Edinburgh Baillie Clarke presided, and at Newcastle-on-Tyne the Mayor presided. Sermons were preached by the Rev. F. Lawrence, the honorary secretary, on "Christian Burial," in Darlington Parish Church and in the Cathedral, Edinburgh. The Bishop of Edinburgh, speaking at the Edinburgh conference, strongly deprecated the excessive gloom which characterised many funeral processions.

Shortly after the death of Archbishop Tait a sum of about £2,000, subscribed by the Rugby pupils, was handed to the governing body of Rugby School, with the request that it might be applied to the foundation of one or more scholarships or prizes, to be awarded annually, under such conditions as might from time to time be determined, provided that they should always be associated with the name of the Archbishop. At a recent meeting of the governing body it was resolved to found two "Archbishop Tait Scholarships," one of £35 for the 6th form, the other of £25 for the rest of the school, each tenable for one year, and not more than once by the same boy, to be awarded after examinations in (*a*) Divinity, (*b*) Greek. The examination is to include (*a*) the English Bible, especially the historical parts, with specified portions of the Greek Testament, and for the junior scholarship only, portions of Milton's poems; and (*b*) translation from and into Greek prose.

During the coming Lent special mid-day services will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral every weekday except Thursday. The service will consist of a collect, a hymn, a brief address, and a litany. On Ash Wednesday and two following days the addresses will be given by the Rev. H. L. Paget, curate in charge of the Oxford mission to East London. The preachers during the remainder of the Lenten season will be the Rev. P. F. Eliot, vicar of Holy Trinity, Bournemouth; The Rev. Canon Jelf, the Rev. E. C. Gough, of Wolverhampton; the Rev. Prebendary Reynolds-Hole, the Rev. Canon W. J. Knox Little, and the Rev. Canon Mason, rector of All Hallows, Barking.

The Bishop of St. David's, in the absence of the Bishop of Rochester, on the 6th inst., consecrated St. Luke's Church, Grange-road, Bermondsey, the vicar of which is the Rev. E. J. Hensley. The edifice, which is in the Early English style of architecture, has accommodation for a congregation of 650. The Rev. C. D. Lawrence, the rector of Bermondsey and the vicar of the new church, read the lessons, the sermon being preached by the Bishop. A very large congregation was present.

A large and influential society has been incorporated in connection with the Church of England for the purpose of dealing practically, on a commercial basis, with the pressing question of emigration. The Rev. G. Prothero, Canon of Westminster, Rector of Whippingham, and Chaplain to the Queen, is the chairman, and Sir William Vincent, baronet, deputy chairman; and amongst the members of the council of anministration is the Rev. J. Bridger, the emigrants' chaplain, St. Nicholas Church, Liverpool. The operations of the society will in the first instance be commenced in Canada, and a large quantity of land has been secured on very advantageous terms in Manitoba. It is near the railway, and has been selected by a practical North-Western farmer (a Yorkshireman), who has also been persuaded to act as the local manager. The emigrants who may take advantage of the proposals of the society will be placed upon this land and upon homesteads within its area, and will be assisted to establish themselves and to cultivate their lands. Out of the capital subscribed a tenth portion will be set apart to provide the settlers with religious ministrations, under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. A number of applications have already been received from persons desiring to settle under the auspices of the society. It will be represented in almost every town and village in the kingdom, and is sure to receive considerable publicity. Another object the society has in view is to establish an agricultural training college for the benefit of young men of means desirous of settling in the country and of acquiring before so doing a practical knowledge of agriculture. Mr. Bridger sails to Canada with the first party of settlers on April 23, and, as in previous years, will be followed by other detachments.

The election of a Proctor in the room of Archdeacon Sumner, who had represented the clergy of Winchester for twenty years, was held last week in the north transept of the Cathedral, the ven. gentleman in the chair. The Rev. R. F. Wilson, vicar of Rownhams, Prebendary of Salisbury, and examining chaplain of Bishop Moberly, was proposed by Canon Compton, and seconded by Canon Durst. Canon Humbert, seconded by Canon Lee, then proposed the Rev. William Lewery Blackley, Hon. Canon of Winchester. Replying to a question, the latter said he was a member of the Church Association twelve years ago, but after two years had left it, and had had no connection with it since. Canon Eliot asked whether Canon Wilson was not a member of the English Church Union? As there was no contradiction he assumed that Canon Wilson was still a member of that society. It was idle to suppose that a party man would not give a party vote on certain questions which came before Convocation, and therefore he should give his hearty support to Mr. Blackley. An incumbent said he was not a party man himself, but he should support Canon Wilson. On a show of hands there appeared 114 in favour of Canon Wilson, and 70 in support of Canon Blackley. This not being satisfactory to Canon Blackley's supporters, the chairman directed that a division should take place, and the result was:—Canon Wilson, 122; Canon Blackley, 68. Archdeacon Sumner added that there was no assembly in which less party feeling was exhibited than the Lower House of Convocation. The division being decisive it was agreed that no poll should be insisted on, and the meeting closed with the Benediction, pronounced by the chairman.

During last year 1,258 seamen of twenty different languages, and of still more numerous nationalities, purchased from the Missions to Seamen Chaplain of Queenstown Harbour, on board their ships, Bibles, New Testaments, and Prayer-Books in their own tongue, paying out of their hard-earned wages £112 17s. 6d. for these sacred books. This was exclusive of gifts of Bible portions and other publications to the crews. Comparately few Englishmen were amongst the purchasers. It is stated that an annual average of about eleven hundred Bibles, New Testaments, and Prayer-Books have been sold to foreign seamen by the Missions to Seamen Chaplain of Queenstown Harbour during at least twenty years. The Missions to Seamen has Chaplains and Readers similarly officiating on board the ships in forty-eight other seaports; who are more or less able to circulate Bibles and Prayer-Books by sale to seamen of various nationalities and creeds.

The Rev. W. H. Pritchett, Hon. Canon of Rochester, Rural Dean of Woolwich, and Rector of St. Paul's, Charlton, died on Thursday, after a few days' illness. Mr. Pritchett had been Rector of St. Paul's, Charlton, since the ecclesiastical division of the parish in 1874, when the new church of St. Paul's was built. He was Chairman of the Woolwich Board of Guardians, who at their meeting on Thursday afternoon passed a vote of condolence, and dispersed without transacting any business.

The West London Mission was inaugurated on Saturday afternoon at Westminster Abbey, by Dr. Temple, Bishop designate of London. At the conclusion of the usual afternoon service, Dr. Temple was conducted to the pulpit in the choir, which, together with the transepts, was crowded with the clergy and lay helpers engaged in the mission. The late Bishop, Dr. Jackson, by whom the Mission was originated, had, Dr. Temple said, left behind him the work that was to be done all ready to go on, and it seemed fitting that some one should say a few words to those who were to be employed in it. The Mission could not fail to be carried on by all who took part in it in the recollection of the true Christian saint who had been called away to his rest while still in the very midst of his great task. He (Dr. Temple) wished first to say something of the spirit in which any one should take part in such a work. They knew that the ordinary work, for various reasons, failed very often to reach those whom they desired to reach most of all. There was needed something which should arouse, startle, and awake them from their slumber—something which should have the power that novelty always exercised. Those who took up this work wished to awaken the ignorant to the fact that there was something to be learned, to awaken the hearts of those instructed to the fact that what they had learned was far more important than they dreamed, to awaken the half-believers to a knowledge of the real meaning of what they professed to believe, and to awaken even those who did believe, and who were already living in some degree in that belief, to see how much more there was even in the ordinary message of the Gospel than they had yet exhibited in their lives. The first condition of all teaching was that he who taught should himself be a learner. As soon as a man ceased to learn he became incapable of teaching. As this was true of teaching. Every man who took part in such a Mission as theirs must begin by understanding that the very joining of it was a pledge before God that he too desired to awaken his own slumbering spirit, that he too was longing for a higher life, and that the Mission was as much a mission to his own soul as to any one to whom he might speak. One of the great dangers of all work of this sort was that it should be nothing but transient excitement, and that when everything special was over they would become colder and long for a repetition of the excitement. If those who are engaged in the work desired something more than this, they must aim at something deeper than could be expressed by mere emotion—must aim at reaching not only men's feelings, but their will and their conscience—must aim at inducing them to form a more resolute purpose, and forthwith begin to put that purpose into effect. He had been requested particularly to invite the attention of the workers to the very large class, principally of young men, who were living in lodgings, cut off from family life, and more or less indifferent to religious observances. In such a city as this there were no doubt other classes who had to be searched for to persuade them to come within reach of the teaching that was now offered. There would be found some who were unbelievers, because they knew nothing at all about the matter. There would be found some who professed to believe, or rather denied that they disbelieved, whose everyday life was a practical expression of the total want of faith; also some who did believe, and in some faint, feeble way professed to live up to the belief they held, without being aware themselves how opposed their whole life was to the nature of that teaching which the Lord brought down for us from heaven. In dealing with all these classes there would be need of much wisdom and good judgment, of careful thought, and very earnest prayer. The object in many cases was not to be gained by argument, but rather by sympathy. The object was to be gained by the effective use of the ordinary instruments which the Lord himself had appointed in His Church—by using all such mission work in its proper place and in its proper measure, but never forgetting for a moment that all this was secondary, and that the work would fail in so far as it did not succeed in bringing men to make a better use than they had made before of what was provided for our daily spiritual food.

The work of the Mission was commenced on Sunday in most of the churches in the archdeaconry of Middlesex, which embraces a wide area, and includes the suburban districts of Enfield, Friern Barnet, Harrow, Uxbridge, and Hampton; as well as the urban parishes in the boroughs of Westminster, Chelsea, and Marylebone. The Mission could hardly have been inaugurated under more unfavourable climatic conditions than those which characterised the opening day, and in many of the out-lying district churches the attendance in the evening was rather less than usual.

Westminster Abbey was crowded in the afternoon, when the Archbishop of Canterbury preached, his text being "They fainted, and were as sheep having no shepherd. Then said He unto His disciples, the harvest truly is plenteous." The Archbishop said in all heathen nations the masses were first treated with contempt, and then feared. Was there any one in the year A.D. 31, except the Lord Himself, who, looking round on the multitude, would have said, "This is God's harvest—the harvest truly is plenteous?" The central principle of their work must be courage. They must never be afraid, because the power which their Lord and Master gave originally would go on, and nothing could check its force but cowardice. It was that power which the Church of London was casting herself on this week. The pastor under whose guiding hand this Mission was planned preached not there, but from the endless world into which he had been carried so quickly he still preached to them by his calm labour, stainless honour, and self-subduing spirit. Their new paetor was not yet with them, but the hope of him was of itself a Mission. There were three points of importance to be noted. There was the visible gain of a Mission, the visible test of a Mission, and the visible application of a Mission. The visible gain was that it gave every Christian an opportunity of declaring himself to be a Christian and of speaking out more boldly. The visible test was to be found in the fact that a Mission was a failure in any parish where the clergy were not left with much more work to do after it was over, and also with many more workers to take part in the work. The visible application was to be seen when people took up some simple work for Christ as for Christ—something that they would not have taken up but for the Mission.

At St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, Canon Hole preached from the text, "Is there not a cause?" in which he showed how the Egyptian crisis, the records in every daily newspaper of murders and suicides, the dissensions between parents and children, between employers and employed, the misery arising from debt and impurity, the misuse of the tongue if not to curse at least to abuse one's neighbour, all called loudly for a special effort. Men called all statesmen place-hunters, parsons hypocrites, and doctors empyrics; they considered generosity extravagance, and boasted of intimacy with persons they hardly knew. He affectionately urged those he was addressing not only to attend the mission services themselves, but allow their servants to do so. At five o'clock Archdeacon Farrar preached the first of a series of sermons to public school men, which was attended by a large number of representative men from all the great schools, well-known politicians, lawyers, officers, and literary men being present. The Archdeacon in his discourse recalled the memories of Eton, Harrow, Winchester, Marlborough, and other schools, spoke of the brave and good men they had produced, specially instancing Melville, Griffith, Lord St. Vincent, and Burnaby, but saying that there was a reverse shield to the bright side of the picture. In eloquent terms he urged repentance for past sins, such as those which clouded David's life, and the need of a steadfast purpose of amendment. At the conclusion of the sermon the large congregation knelt for some time in private prayer. The offertory was for penitentiary work.

At the parish church of Kensington, where an elaborate scheme of services and addresses has been organised by the energetic vicar, the Hon. and Rev. E. Carr Glyn, the building was so crowded at the principal morning and evening addresses that the vestry-hall had to be utilised for overflow meetings. The address to men only in the afternoon by the Rev. Armstrong Hall was of a deeply interesting character.

At St. Peter's, Eaton-square, the services were thronged all day, the Rev. F. Ponsonby preaching in the morning, and Canon Body at night gave one of his most rousing spiritual addresses. After the offertory the preacher came down to the chancel steps, and told them that Mr. Gladstone had that afternoon told the Dean of Westminster at the Abbey that he had authentic information that General Gordon was alive, a statement which he was certain would cause intense joy. The effect was electrical, and it seemed with difficulty that the people restrained themselves from giving audible expression to their feelings.

At St. Barnabas, Pimlico, where there were very large congregations, there was an outdoor procession before Evening Prayer, the rain notwithstanding, of some two hundred members of the Church of England Working Men's Society, headed by Mr. Charles Powell, who subsequently went on to the schoolroom of Holy Trinity, Sloane-square, where he addressed a large body of working men at the same time as the service was going on in the church.

In the rural deanery of St. Pancras the churches best attended were the parish church, where Dr. Pigou gave earnest addresses; Christ Church, Albany-street, where Canon Wilde gave an exposition of the Gospel of the day; and St. Mary Magdalene, Munster-square.

The vicar of Greenwich (the Rev. Brooke Lambert) preached on Sunday evening in Westbourne-park Chapel. The offerings collected at the service were for the Mission now being carried on in the west of London.

The Bishop of Southwell (Dr. Ridding) on Monday evening gave an address at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, to old public school men. Taking for his text the words, "Quit you like men, be strong," Dr. Ridding dwelt at some length and in a philosophical spirit on the influence of ideas, urging those who composed the cultured stratum of London to do their utmost to elevate the ideas of society, and particularly of that class which most needed ideas. Giving his remarks a practical turn, the preacher said:—"A working man remarked to a lady engaged engaged in rescue work, 'You won't do any good, ma'am, till you alter the music-hall songs. No girl can keep straight who has these ideas put in her head.' I do not think any change has raised the tone of public schools like the change in their songs. Forty years ago, however much they might dislike it, the best boys never dreamt of trying to eradicate the foul stuff which boys were called on to roar in chorus. A generation came and did it, and that generation of boys did more for school tone than we masters. Are there no songsters to make modern songbooks for the public; songs of fun, and spirit, and pathos, if your like? These fellows' hearts are soft, and in the right place, if they have a chance. There are plenty to introduce songs that will go down. Who will make some? Songs, not laws, are hummed all day, and that is how ideas grow. And then what do young men's clubs and institutes need to draw them from the publics? Plays from half an hour to an hour long—broad fun and poetical justice, or a spirited drama of pluck and generosity, with nothing to suggest low

thoughts; but fun and chivalry, and happy marriages, and broad points of true sentiment—strong but wholesome. The penny gallery can applaud true sentiment better than the pit stalls. Oh! for a playwright and a songster for the people who will write up to them, not down to them, and give them the best human nature can give. Having referred to the mischief wrought by mischievous and low-toned journals, the Bishop continued—"Then nearer home. Clubs have made history. A people's spirit shows in the objects of its clubs. Ancients and moderns have had their clubs of disturbance. Clubs are the special home of young Londoners. One object pervades them—individualism. To be apart, to have no home, no responsibility. It seems Quixotic to question this, but every one here rises to *esprit de corps* for every other institution. Who will evoke *esprit de corps* in London clubs and make some community of spirit and save men from the *ennui* of individualism? Impossible! and yet how short a time ago it seemed impossible for public schools and colleges to have an idea of starting missions. Nothing that's good is impossible. Then, again, people say wild oats must be sown. I deny that, but I allow that when they are sown they grow and run to seed. At least do you, who feel your oats were wild, catch and burn your seeds before they fall on the next generation. It has been well said, 'Do noble things, not dream them all day long.' Add to that also, 'Say noble things.' Cynical talk is the general lowerer of tone in society, which puts generous and true ideas at disadvantage, and crushes such ideas out of hearts and mouths where they were natural and fresh. Who is there among you who is not always making ideas? Doctors, lawyers, artists, writers, men of more personal professions, soldiers, administrators, men of business. How many critical moments of others' lives are settled by your ideas? Ideas are emanating from us every moment, and such as we are such are those that flow most naturally and seem most real."

Convocation.

PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY.

TUESDAY.

The members of both Houses of the Convocation of Canterbury assembled at Westminster for the despatch of business. Following the usual custom at the first meeting of a new session, Convocation went from the Jerusalem Chamber to Henry VII.'s Chapel, Westminster Abbey, where they participated in Holy Communion. The Archbishop was the celebrant, being assisted by the Prolocutor of the Lower House (Lord Alwyne Compton), the Dean of Westminster, and also by the Bishop of Hereford, and the Bishop of Chichester.

UPPER HOUSE.

The members of the Upper House assembled in the Board-room of Queen Anne's Bounty-office, Dean's-yard—the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding. There were present the Bishop of Winchester, the Bishop of Hereford, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop-Designate of London (Dr. Temple), the Bishop of Bangor, the Bishop of St. Albans, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of St. Davids, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Bishop of Llandaff, the Bishop of Ely, the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Bishop of Truro, and the Bishop of Southwell. The Bishop of Norwich was stated to be absent through indisposition.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER stated that he had been entrusted with a resolution relating to the loss which the House and the Church had so recently sustained in the death of the Bishop of London. It was very difficult, he said, to dwell upon the character of the late Bishop, with whom he had had a lengthened and intimate acquaintance and friendship. His friendship with the late Prelate extended over thirty-five years, and they had sat together in that House for a period of twenty-one years. They had known of each other's affections and sorrows, and he knew of the home life of him whom they all lamented. It was not possible for many to so know the late Bishop Jackson, who possessed in a large degree the Anglo-Saxon quality of shyness—a quality which was misinterpreted by some and not understood by many. The Press, his Lordship remarked, had done, in his opinion, ample justice to the memory of Bishop Jackson as regarded his indefatigable energy and industry in the administration of his See, but justice had scarcely been paid to his great qualities of mind. His knowledge was extensive, his charges were scholarly, but he was not, it was true, to be regarded as a great orator. Men of great mind, such as Cromwell, Napoleon, and more particularly the Duke of Wellington, were not orators in any sense of the word, but they were nevertheless men of great minds, and this fact was particularly worth remarking upon at a time when the world was in danger of being governed by words rather than by wisdom. Bishop Jackson was a man of the highest qualities of mind, though he was not a great orator, and those who had consulted him, as had the speaker, had found him to be a man of the soundest judgment. The late Bishop was singularly happy in his death. He knew that he suffered from a great bodily infirmity, and he had been advised not to take part in evening service or in evening meetings. With the full knowledge of his danger he conceived it to be his duty to preach in the Cathedral of his diocese in accordance with an annual custom, and so he was at his work on what was really the last night of his life. During the night after, the late Bishop of London passed by a noble death from a life of work to his rest. Speaking of the deceased prelate as his friend, he should say, "Alas, my brother!" but as the Bishop of London he should say of him, "Blessed is he who dies in the Lord." He had to submit to their Lordships the following resolution:—

That this House desires to express its deepest sorrow for the death of the Bishop of London, its senior member, both in rank (next to the president) and in tenure of office, who has for thirty-one years been its truest and most loyal counsellor in all questions, social, ecclesiastical, and spiritual. That this House, nevertheless, desires to record its thankfulness for the noble and painful death in the midst of his labours which crowned a noble and devoted life; and lastly, this House desires to assure its family of its deep sympathy with them all in their sorrows, in their hopes, and in their joys.

The speaker proceeded to say that he was sure all his brother Bishops would give welcome to the Bishop-Designate of London, who was to succeed their late friend. Bishop Temple was known to them all as one who had struggled over enormous difficulties through an active life as the head of a great public school, entered upon the headship of a great diocese, which he had administered vigorously, with great self-denial, and with a large-hearted charity. He had thus won the admiration and esteem of all classes, and thus all were assured that the successor to Bishop Jackson would worthily fulfil the duties of an enormous charge such as the headship of the Metropolitan see involved. Their lordships, he was assured, would give every welcome to the Metropolitan Bishop, and would wish that God would give him life and strength long to serve Him in that exalted position.

The Bishop-Designate of LONDON was called upon by the President to second the resolution, and speaking with much emotion, he said that the words of kindly welcome used by the Bishop of Winchester were so entirely unexpected, and went so far beyond his own regard of himself, that he felt a little off his balance at the moment of rising to second the resolution, and he could scarcely say what he most desired to express. In seconding the resolution, recording the sorrow of the House at the loss sustained by the calling away of the late Bishop, he must say that his own personal loss was as great as any one, for ever since he had been called to the position he held he had repeatedly had the need of consulting Bishop Jackson, who, in all cases of difficulty in the administration of duty was the only Bishop, with one exception, whom he had consulted, and his advice was invariably wise and helpful. The late Bishop's long experience in the administration of what must be in many ways the most difficult diocese in the world, made him a most valued adviser, and regrets never came from following his counsel. The late Bishop was not only singularly judicious, but he was also singularly sympathetic, and he gave such help to those who laid their hearts open to him as a brother would give to a brother. Those who knew him received from contact with him the sense of a holiness of life quite peculiar to himself—not shown in such ways as to strike people at first sight, but seen to be real, and from the heart and soul of the man, whose every thought was governed by the conscientious desire to please God. There would not soon be found another like him whom they had lost, nor would another be found to hold quite the same position; but it might be anticipated that, as time went on, the void created by his loss would be felt the greater. (Hear, hear.)

The Bishop of BATH and WELLS bore testimony to the excellence of the work done by the late Bishop when he was vicar of St. James's.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY said that he found the late Bishop possessed of an exceedingly ready knowledge upon every difficulty that arose. It had surprised him to see that there had been so little appreciation on the part of the public of Bishop Jackson's intellectual gifts, for he was sure that they were very great, and the want of appreciation of them could only be due to those qualities of modesty and reserve which gave him very great power. He had one characteristic which they as Bishops ought to lay keenly to heart, and that was absolute impartiality of mind. (Hear, hear.) This impartiality was so great in him as to surprise not only those who did not agree with him, but even his own friends. His grace then paid a warm tribute of praise to the new Bishop of London, who, he said, had been to him a constant friend, and he could not tell how often Dr. Temple's joyful laughter had dispersed his fears, or how many times his friend had clutched his wrist when he had been in a real difficulty.

The resolution having been agreed to,

The Bishop of WINCHESTER next moved—

That this House deeply deplores the necessity which has deprived them of the presence of Bishop Wordsworth, and the Church of his labours as the Bishop of a great diocese; that this House desires to record its sense of the important services which, during a long life, he has rendered to literature, to theology, to the Church, and to the world; its deep respect for his learning, wisdom, and piety, and its earnest hope that he may be supported, cheered, and comforted in his time of trial by the grace of God and the light of His countenance.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER and BRISTOL said that Dr. Wordsworth was a man of great breadth of learning, and his work as a commentator, especially on the New Testament, would not die so long as the English language lasted.

The Bishop of ST. ALBANS also bore testimony to the great stores of learning possessed by Bishop Wordsworth, and to the remarkable sweetness of his disposition.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY said that no malicious or envious gloss could discover under the character of Dr. Wordsworth one single spot of meanness or selfishness, and as time went on he would be even more appreciated as a scholar than he had been hitherto. A character more full of courage and love his Grace never remembered to have known.

The resolution was agreed to.

The motion was seconded and carried *nem. con.*

The PRESIDENT said there was an important question with respect to mixed marriages between French and English subjects which it was necessary to bring before their Lordships. Public attention was directed some years since to cases of alleged abandonment of English women who had been married to Frenchmen in England, the case being that any person marrying a French subject, though with all solemnities necessary to the validity of the marriage by the law of England, was liable to have the marriage set aside and treated as a nullity in the French Courts, unless the conditions of the French law as to age, consent of parents and relations, and public announcement before the celebration of the marriage had all been complied with. Careful consideration appeared to have been given to the question of the remedy of this state of things, and by what means the dangers of the invalidity of the marriage might be brought to the notice of all persons proposing to contract marriage in England with foreigners. Ultimately, an arrangement had been arrived at between the Governments of France and England, under which a form of certificate had been supplied to all the French consular agents within the United Kingdom. This stated what was required by the law of France of French citizens about to contract marriage, and certified that by the production of proper evidence to the officer issuing the certificate all the requirements of the French law had been complied with, and that the parties would be competent to contract marriage in France. Thus it would be in the power of any English subject proposing to marry a French subject to acquire from the French consul in the vicinity all needful information as to what were the requirements of French law for the validity of the contemplated marriage, and to obtain a certificate evidencing that all such requirements had been duly complied with. His Grace added that there would have to be a circular sent to the registrars on the subject.

The Bishop of Winchester presented the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the spiritual needs of the masses of the people, and gave notice that he would on Friday move that steps be taken for its circulation.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

LOWER HOUSE.

At the conclusion of the service in the Abbey the members of the Lower House met in the College Hall, Westminster Abbey. The Prolocutor took the chair, and Mr. F. Cobb, the actuary, made the preconisation; there being a good attendance.

On the motion of Canon TWELLS it was resolved—

That his Grace the President be requested to appoint a committee to report on the past and present of such parochial guilds as possess more or less a religious character, and deduce from them the future possibilities and advantages of such institutions.

The House proceeded to consider a supplementary report of the committee appointed to consider the subject of the recovery of fallen women. It stated that the mind of the country had been roused to this question, and the action of Convocation in the matter had brought into existence a number of efforts in various parts of the country for the maintenance of purity and the recovery of those who had fallen. The law of this country failed grievously in respect of the protection of women. In no country were girls left so unprotected as in England, and the law should be made more penal and certain in its dealings with the traffickers in human bodies and souls.

It was resolved—

That it is desirable to invite diocesan conferences to use their influence for the maintenance and restoration of female purity by encouraging the institution of industrial homes for neglected girls, of penitentiaries for fallen women, and other similar agencies. That it is desirable to form associations of men for the purpose of maintaining a high tone of purity in themselves and others. That their Lordships in the Upper House be respectfully requested to urge in their places in Parliament the importance of making the law for the protection of women more stringent and more penal; and that their Lordships of the Upper House be respectfully requested to urge the importance of some measure for improving the habitations of the people.

The Bishop of NOTTINGHAM brought up the report on the spiritual administration to soldiers and congratulated the Church on the appointment of the Rev. J. C. Edgehill as the new Chaplain-General of the Forces. The following resolutions were adopted—

That the spiritual condition of soldiers whilst serving in the Army is of great importance to the nation. That the spiritual life would undoubtedly be advanced in soldiers if the Government can be induced to supply chapels for their use, the present absence of which is highly detrimental to the maintenance of their religious life. That far more frequent administrations of the Holy Communion should be provided for soldiers than is now the case, and especially at an early hour; and the chaplains in their public and private ministrations should make increased efforts to urge the necessity of receiving the Holy Communion. That a room for the use of the chaplain should be provided in every barracks, so as to enable him to hold a spiritual intercourse with soldiers privately.

The House adjourned at its rising until Wednesday.

UPPER HOUSE.—WEDNESDAY.

The Bishops met in Dean's-yard at the Queen Anne's Bounty-office, the Archbishop presiding. There were present the Bishops of Winchester, Gloucester and Bristol, Hereford, Ely, St. Asaph, Oxford, Lichfield, St. David's, Truro, Llandaff, Chichester, Bath and Wells, St. Albans, Bangor, and Southwell.

The Lower House sent up a Report on the subject of enlarging the representation of the Lower House, and increasing the number of proctors and electors. This could be done, the Lower House conceived, by the President of the Upper House obtaining the Queen's Letters of Business authorising the Convocation to frame canons which would effect the change.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER and BRISTOL, in moving that the House take the Report into consideration, made a speech of very considerable length, in which he reviewed the whole history of the question, which he said had been discussed in Convocation for thirty-four years, and of late years had been brought up with great frequency. He detailed the steps which had been taken by Archbishops Longley and Tait to obtain the opinions of the soundest ecclesiastical lawyers, and all these had come to the conclusion that Convocation had no power within itself to alter its own constitution—that canons even made under the Queen's licence could not effect this end, and that the only power capable of changing the constitution of the Synod was the Legislature. He also read an opinion drawn up some years ago by the present Lord Chancellor, who pointed out that the Supreme Legislature could only change the character of the Houses.

In the course of a conversational discussion which followed, the Bishop of OXFORD expressed his opinion that if Archbishop Longley could alter the number of proctors for the Northern Province canons legally enacted could alter the Lower House representation of the Southern Province.

The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S said that the change referred to in the Northern Province was made in accordance with the ancient practice of that province.

Ultimately the subject was adjourned, and the House rose.

LOWER HOUSE.—WEDNESDAY.

The members of the Lower House reassembled in the College Hall, Westminster Abbey.

The Prolocutor (Lord Alwyne Compton) took the chair at eleven o'clock.

Archdeacon LEAR said he should move to-morrow the following resolution:—

That his Grace the President and their Lordships of the Upper House, at this time of anxiety and distress, when many of our countrymen are exposed to the dangers of war, are earnestly requested to recommend an appropriate service for the Church in this Province, and if they think proper, to prepare a special form of prayer for public, or, if that be impracticable, private use.

Archdeacon RANDALL presented a *gravamen* which, after referring to the increase in the number of divorces, urged that an authoritative declaration should be made as to whether the Holy Communion can be administered to divorced persons.

Canon GREGORY presented a report on matters connected with Burial Bills, and moved:—

That it is desirable that the fees payable to clergymen and other persons for officiating at funerals in cemeteries be the same.

The rev. Canon pointed out that the difference in the amount charged as fees in cemeteries, especially near London, led to many people being buried in unconsecrated ground who otherwise would be buried in consecrated ground. What they wanted was a regular scale of fees.

Canon BUTLER, in support of the resolution, said that these fees created an antagonism, and this was not the time when the Church should appear to be anxious to snap up every possible fee; but in cases where the cemetery was, say, two miles from the town, he thought the clergy were entitled to their fees, as it would cost something for travelling.

The Bishop of DOVER pointed out that the clergy were bound by law to bury anyone who died in their parish, and therefore the fees stood on rather a different footing from the voluntary payments made to Nonconformists for burials.

Archdeacon HESSEY said, with reference to St. George's, Hanover-square, that the scale of clerical fees in St. George's cemetery was revised and reduced considerably last October, and the change had in three months produced this remarkable result, that the interments in consecrated ground were already five times more numerous than they were, and were on the increase. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. WALTERS objected to the proposal as being the thin edge of Disestablishment.

After some further discussion the resolution was adopted.

It was also agreed that the attention of their Lordships the Bishops be called to the suggestion contained in the previous resolution.

The House proceeded to consider a series of manuals for private prayer which came from the Committee to frame for occasional services. They approved of the manuals.

A report on Church Music and Choristers was considered, and the following resolutions were agreed to:—

That it is desirable that while encouragement and free scope should be given generally to the development of Church music, those parts of the Church Service in which the musical rendering has been fixed by custom during the last 300 years should not be the subject of innovations; that efforts should be made by school managers to co-operate with the Education Department in promoting singing from notes in elementary schools as far as local circumstances may allow; that certificates of proficiency in the theory and practice of vocal and instrumental music should be given under the authority of the Education Department to students in training colleges; that it was desirable that the rudiments of music should be cultivated by students in theological colleges, and by others intending to offer themselves as candidates for Holy Orders; that there should be central Diocesan Committees to organise festivals and united services; that the special attention of the clergy be called to the important subject of the moral and religious training of choristers.

The House then considered a report of the Committee on Intemperance, with special reference to the pledges taken by the members of the Church of England Temperance Society.

The House adjourned.

UPPER HOUSE.—THURSDAY.

The meeting of the Bishops was held in the board-room of Queen Anne's Bounty-office—the Archbishop presiding. Their Lordships sat nearly all day *in camerâ*, and did not commence public business until late in the afternoon, when Mr. Hassard, the Registrar, read the minutes, which were confirmed.

The Prolocutor, with his assessors, attended, and presented matters of business which had been passed by the Lower House. Having made the presentation, the representatives of the Lower House retired.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER said it had been intimated to some of their Lordships that a practice was somewhat silently growing up in some few places of reserving the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper for administration to the sick. He had no personal knowledge of the matter; but it seemed to him that it was the duty of their Lordships to declare the teaching of the Church upon the subject. In the early Church the practice was to carry the elements from the Church during the celebration of Holy Communion straightway to the sick. That was no reservation whatever; but by degrees this grew into a practice of reserving the elements, one of which was constantly left on the altar to be worshipped. This was nothing less than idolatry. At the Reformation reservation of the elements in any way was forbidden, and a special service was appointed to be used for the administration of the Sacrament to the sick, and he moved that their Lordships appoint a Committee to consider the subject.

The Bishop of TRURO seconded the resolution. He was satisfied that the time had arrived when the opinion of that House should be clearly and publicly expressed on the matter.

The resolution was agreed to, and a Committee of the whole House appointed.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY said that with regard to the spiritual welfare of emigrants to America and elsewhere a Committee of the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge had prepared a series of small handbooks relating to most of our Colonies, and if the clergy would exert themselves every man could now have the help of the clergy the whole way from the place from which he started to the place where he wished to settle abroad. There was a want of initiation on the part of the clergy in England, and the Committee to which he had referred had accordingly prepared a form of commendatory letter which the clergyman of the parish would give to any person desiring to emigrate. He thought they ought to have in all the dioceses organising Committees to consider how the object they had in view could best be promoted.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER agreed with what had fallen from the President as to the importance of this matter, and the necessity for the clergy interesting themselves in it.

Some discussion took place upon the subject of the Church Army, which it was stated was about to pass from under the direction of the Parochial Mission Society and assume an independent position.

The Bishops of OXFORD and TRURO expressed the opinion that their Lordships might take the opportunity of giving some sort of direction to the movement.

The Bishop of LICHFIELD thought, on the other hand, that the Church Army was not necessary, and that it was an anomaly. It would be much better to trust to evangelistic missions in each diocese.

A resolution was agreed to appointing a Committee of their Lordships to inquire into and report upon the existing methods of employing working men for evangelistic purposes.

Their Lordships adjourned.

LOWER HOUSE.—THURSDAY.

The members of the Lower House of Convocation met in the College Hall, Westminster Abbey, at eleven o'clock—Lord Alwyne Compton, the Prolocutor, in the chair.

The PROLOCUTOR said: Before we proceed with the business before us it has been suggested to me that as a great Church body we should pay some sort of tribute to the memory of the great man whom we believe is lost to our country. I am sure the whole House will agree with me that we have lost not only a great soldier but a great Christian whose life has been guided by Christian motives. If he has been taken from us, as I am afraid we must believe that he has been, he has spent the whole year in warding off from the people at Khartoum the terrible fate which has at last fallen on them. He went out there with that object, and for a long time succeeded. A certain number of the people he had been permitted to save.

Archdeacon LEAR then proceeded to move his resolution, of which he gave notice on Wednesday, with reference to special prayers for the soldiers in the Soudan. He said that he was aware of a growing feeling amongst Churchmen that the Bishops should direct the clergy to have daily prayers for the sick, wounded, and for our soldiers abroad in their time of danger. They no doubt had seen from the newspapers that the Archbishop of Canterbury had recommended the use by his clergy of a special prayer, but he could not help feeling that an unanimous movement on the part of the Bishops would be much valued by the people of this country. He felt they would not be out of order in approaching the Bishops and asking them to advise the clergy to lead their people day by day to the Throne of Grace for their fellow-countrymen. The prayer for times of war and tumult in the Prayer-Book contained expressions which could hardly be considered applicable to the present circumstances. Then there was the form of prayer to be used at sea before fighting, but that was not suitable. It was not for the Lower House to dictate to the Bishops, but approaching as they were the season of Lent he thought the Bishops should direct daily Communions and prayers for our soldiers, the sick and wounded and others in distress, or perhaps the Litany could be used with that intention. The Bishops had power to order special Psalms and proper Lessons on any occasion they chose. The opinions he had expressed were intensified by the news from the Soudan yesterday and to-day, and he thought they would be wanting in their duty to God and to those under their care unless they unanimously led the prayers of their people day by day to the Throne of Grace for those who were in deep suffering and in deep peril at the present time.

The Bishop of NOTTINGHAM seconded the resolution.

Canon HOPKINS said that while they were discussing this matter they should express the great thankfulness to Almighty God that their efforts which had recently been made in this country to destroy life had been frustrated. Their deliverance from that calamity (the dynamite attempts) was not due to their own foresight, but they owed very much to the superintendence of a kind Providence. He should like to see recognised their humble thankfulness for the protecting providence of God, which had saved them from attacks of peculiar malignity.

Canon BUTLER did not think that these were the times when to set their Fathers in God to make special prayers.

Canon RAWLINSON agreed with Canon Butler. He never heard a modern prayer that he liked or which did not grate on his feelings.

The resolution was, after some discussion, adopted in these terms:—

That his Grace the President and the Bishops of the Province, being now assembled in Convocation, the Lower House deems it a fitting opportunity to approach their Lordships at this time of anxiety and distress, and to ask them to take counsel together, and recommend in their several dioceses the use of appropriate prayers in the churches of this province, and if they saw fit to prepare special prayers for public or for private use.

Archdeacon RANDALL presented a *gravamen* with regard to re-marriage of divorced persons, deploring the increase in the number of divorces, and pointing out that questions of extreme difficulty were from time to time presented to the clergy and people in which were involved the granting or withholding of the Church's ministrations in the case of persons who, being declared by the decree of civil court to be set free *a vinculo matrimonii*, desired to contract fresh marriages. The *reformandum* presented was as follows:—

They therefore humbly pray their Lordships of the Upper House to take into consideration this subject, with a view of giving to their clergy and to the Church at large such an exposition of the law of the Church as will suffice in any difficulties which may have arisen from the changes in the law of the realm and prevent any breach of the law of the Church through ignorance of what that law is.

After a long discussion the *gravamen* was adopted as an *articulus cleri*, the *reformandum* being altered as follows:—

This House therefore prays their Lordships of the Upper House to take into consideration this subject with the view of putting forth a Synodical declaration on the subject of the law of the Church with respect to marriage, and thus preventing any breach of the law of the Church through ignorance of what the law is.

The House afterwards resumed the debate on the temperance pledges of the Church of England Temperance Society.

The House at its rising adjourned until Friday.

THE COURT.

On Sunday morning Her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg, and the members of the Royal household, attended Divine service at Osborne. The Hon. and Rev. Francis Byng, Vicar of St. Peter's, Brompton, and Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majesty, officiated.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, will leave Osborne to-day (Saturday) for Windsor Castle.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, who has been residing at Claremont for the last three weeks, goes to Windsor Castle next week on a visit to the Queen, and will probably accompany Her Majesty to Germany.

The Prince of Wales will, by command of the Queen, hold Levées at St. James's Palace, on behalf of Her Majesty, on Monday, March 2, and on Saturday, March 14 next, at two o'clock.

On Sunday morning the Princess of Wales and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, attended by Miss Knollys and Sir Dighton Probyn, were present at Divine service at Sandringham Church. The Rev. J. A. F. Hervey, vicar, officiated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Sultan has conferred the Grand Cordon of the Osmanié Order on Prince Albert Victor of Wales.

Prince George, youngest son of the Prince of Wales, is to complete his gunnery and torpedo education on board Her Majesty's ship *Excellent* at Portsmouth, and special arrangements are being made for the accommodation of the Prince on board that vessel, where he will take up his quarters early in April.

At Her Majesty's next Privy Council, which will be held shortly, the Earl of Rosebery will be sworn a member of the Privy Council, and take his seat at the Board, on his appointment as Lord Privy Seal.

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have offered Gravel Pit-wood, Highgate, covering sixty-nine acres, and thirty acres of land at Kilburn, as public parks, on the conditions that the City Corporation obtains the necessary Parliamentary sanction and undertakes to lay out and maintain these spaces as public parks in perpetuity. The Common Council on Thursday referred the offer to a committee for consideration.

In one of the schools under Government inspection in the East of London, the following questions were recently proposed to children about 11 or 12 years of age:—"Name the railway-stations on one of the railways in Australia." "Describe the inner ear, and say how the hearing is carried on to the brain." When such questions are still propounded, can we hope that overpressure will be no more known or heard of by Mr. Mundella?

While a sentry called Botham was on guard at a guncotton magazine in Plumstead-marshes in the middle of Sunday night, a man came upon him suddenly in the dark, and was, as usual, challenged several times as to who he was. As the man continued to come on without taking notice of the challenge, the sentry called his comrades and ... him through with a bayonet—or rather, as he describes it, the man ran on to the bayonet. It was found that the man was a soldier called Brindley, one of the guard from inside the building, and a very great friend of the sentry's. Brindley was wounded severely in the chest, and died in a few minutes. Though Botham was arrested on the charge of murder, it is believed that Brindley was playing a practical joke on his friend by endeavouring to frighten him, there being much apprehension of Fenians in the neighbourhood of this magazine. The coroner's jury found that Botham killed Brindley in the discharge of his duty as sentry.

In consequence of difficulties and lawsuits which have arisen in reference to certain mixed marriages contracted in this country, the French and English Governments have for some time past been concerting as to the best means for preventing, in future, the evasion of the formalities prescribed by French law for the celebration of marriages, the omission of which can give rise to suits for nullity in France. A communication from the French Consulate informs us that diplomatic notes have been exchanged between the two Cabinets, and it has recently been decided that French consuls in the United Kingdom shall henceforth be authorised to grant certificates proving that the necessary formalities prescribed by the French law to be complied with previous to the celebration have been carried out in due form in France. M. Ferry has latterly addressed a circular to the consulates in the United Kingdom notifying the result of these negotiations, and containing directions as to the form of certificate to be delivered by them. One of the conditions to be fulfilled is the previous legal publication in France of such, besides the consents of their parents, or of the other parties prescribed by French law. The consul will further certify that a marriage contracted in a foreign country between a Frenchman and a foreign woman is valid if it has been celebrated according to the laws of such country upon the following conditions:—

1. That the necessary legal publications and the requisite consents have been previously made and obtained in France.
2. That the future consorts have respectively attained the age required by law—namely, eighteen years for males and fifteen years for females.
3. That the consent of both consorts to the marriage has been absolutely free.
4. That neither of the consorts shall be fettered by a previous marriage.
5. That the projected marriage does not violate the regulations as to marriages between relatives and allies within the prohibited degrees according to French law.
6. The Consul further certifies that a foreign woman who marries a Frenchman becomes French by the fact of the marriage alone, and that the children, issue of such marriage, even born in a foreign country, are French.

Looking to the great number of mixed marriages which take place in the United Kingdom, many of which are liable at any time to be annulled by the French Courts upon the ground of clandestinity or default of publications and consents, Mr. Argles, solicitor to the French Consulate, suggests that too wide publicity cannot be given to this convention. It is hoped it may put an end to a repetition of the misery which has occurred in certain cases and to the uncertainty which has prevailed up to the present time with regard to the regulations prescribed by the French law. Clergyman, registrars, solicitors, and the public, before solemnising a marriage or permitting a British subject to contract marriage with a Frenchman, will now be able to insist upon the latter producing a Consular certificate establishing his legal right to have the ceremony performed, and it can then be proceeded with without risk of being subsequently annulled by the Courts of France. The conditions requisite for contracting marriage in France are stringent and lengthy. They will be found fully set out in Articles 63 to 76 and 144 to 226 of the French Civil Code.

Vice-Chancellor Bacon attained his eighty-seventh birthday on Wednesday. His lordship is of course the Nestor of the English Bench and Bar, and is probably the oldest judge, and even (with the exception of the German Emperor, who can give him nearly a year) the oldest public officer in the world. The Vice-Chancellor spent his birthday chiefly in listening to the statement of counsel in the Weldon case, and to Mrs. Weldon's cross-examination of witnesses. Mrs. Weldon, says the *St. James's Gazette*, is certainly "a very intelligent woman," as the Vice-Chancellor politely called her; but the duty of presiding over one of the frequent litigations in which she indulges is not that which would be chosen by most of us *anno ætat.* LXXXVII. Mrs. Weldon, it may be observed, is rather more than half as old as her judge. She confesses to eight-and-forty.

George Robert Lee, 28, styling himself "Reverend," was charged on remand at Wolverhampton yesterday week, with obtaining, by false pretences, board and lodging, value £3 17s., from Mrs. Hamer, proprietress of the Trevelyan Hotel. The prisoner is a native of Sheffield, where some time ago he carried on the pawnbroking business. He did not succeed, and emigrated to South Africa. At Wolverhampton he talked loudly about his prospects of opening a branch of the Free Church of England, and on Sunday he read the lessons at the church of that community in Wolverhampton. He was committed for trial.

There having remained a sum of 9,000,000 dollars undistributed by the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims out of the Geneva award, the United States Congress reconstituted this Court and extended the right to share in the surplus to "indirect" claims, including those of underwriters and payers of war premiums, whether claimants were United States citizens or British subjects. The time to file claims expired in January, 1883. One of the Commissioners of the said Court, Mr. Van Wagner, is now sitting in the Temple hearing the evidence of English claimants in support of claims already filed. It is understood that a short supplementary Act will be passed by Congress allowing those who were too late in filing their claims in January, 1883, to prove them even now.

Sir Thomas James Nelson, who for twenty-three years has filled the position of City Solicitor, died on Saturday. The deceased gentleman was at Guildhall on Friday, and returned to his residence at Hampton Wick, in the evening, apparently in his usual state of health. During the night, however, he was seized with a fit and died between eight and nine o'clock on Saturday morning. Sir Thomas Nelson was born in 1809, and was educated at the City of London School and the College at Saxe-Coburg. In 1848 he was admitted a solicitor and continued to practise until 1862, when he was elected to the position he held until his death, in succession to the late Mr. Charles Pearson. The deceased gentleman was a lieutenant of the City of London, a justice of the peace for Kingston, and chairman of the Lower Thames Valley Main Sewage Board and the Local Board of Hampton Wick. In 1850 he married Jemima, daughter of Mr. W. H. Mullens, stockbroker, and leaves a family. He was engaged in the litigation connected with the preservation of Epping Forest.

At the Brighton Police-court on Tuesday, James Hardy, the Headmaster of the Pelham-street Board School, was fined 10s. and costs, or seven days' hard labour, for assaulting one of his pupils, a boy of 10 years of age. It appeared that Mr. Hardy caned the boy a week ago because he made mistakes in his arithmetic, and on the following day his parents, noticing that he had a bruise on his head, questioned him, and upon stripping him found large weals on his back, some of which were red, and one quite black. The Attendance Committee of the School Board were appealed to by the boy's father, but the complaint was dismissed by them. The assistant-master and the pupil-teachers were called for the defence, and stated that the caning was not severe, and it was also urged that as the defendant had several times sent the boy to his own house to dinner, it was not likely he would deal harshly with him. The Stipendiary, however, said the fact that three marks still remained on the boy's back proved that the punishment was excessive.

When King James, in his celebrated *Counterblast*, inveighed so bitterly against the "noxious weed" tobacco, the fumes of which he likened to the "horrible stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless," he had not, we may be sure, inhaled any of the delightful aroma such as that emitted from the modern cigarette when made of the purest Turkish tobacco by so well known a manufacturer as M. Margowski, of 55, Oxford-street. Such an experience would, we believe, have soothed down the monarch's aversion, if it had not entirely changed his opinion and converted him into an ardent champion of the weed. So large is that portion of the community who, like General Gordon, make a cigarette their inseparable companion, and so greatly has the number of manufacturers increased, that it is not surprising to find other than Turkish tobacco frequently palmed off upon the unwary by unscrupulous manufacturers as the real article; in fact, it has become a difficult matter to know with certainty where a really good cigarette may be obtained. It is therefore gratifying to learn that at M. Margowski's establishment there can be procured cigarettes made of the purest Turkish tobacco, and at a price even below that frequently paid for an inferior article, large or small quantities being supplied by weight in boxes of 50, 100, 500, and 1,000. Smokers who prefer a pipe, and there are many such, can at M. Margowski's obtain the very finest Turkish tobacco, to smoke which will be esteemed a luxury, the delightful fragrance of the tobacco imparting a soothing influence unknown to the smoker of other growths.

The two men, Cunningham and Burton, who are charged with being concerned together in the explosion at the Tower, were brought up at Bow-street on Monday for further examination. Mr. Poland said there was reason to believe that the prisoners visited England in the spring of 1884, and were in London at the time of the explosions at the Junior Carlton Club and Scotland-yard. Also, that they were two of three men who travelled in the brake van of a train on the Metropolitan Railway when the explosion occurred near Gower-street Station on January 2. The principal new evidence now given was that of the persons with whom Burton had lodged, not far from Cunningham's lodgings, and that of a police officer who was positive that he had seen the prisoners once walking and talking together. Burton denied that he had ever seen Cunningham before he met him in the dock. Mr. Poland stated that the only books found in Burton's possession were guides to the Tower and to the Palace at Westminster. The case was adjourned for a week.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d., tins 1s. 1½d., labelled, "JAMES EPPS AND CO., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co. are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent." While Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease."

"laden with the scent of flowers,
And breath of odorous spring."

SPINNER'S TEA.—A company of merchants are now selling through Spinner & Co. the choicest tea that comes from India and China at 2s. 8d. a pound, in packets only. This is the perfection of tea, and will please the most fastidious.—Agents wanted in every town and village. For terms, apply to Spinner & Co., 60, Strand, London.—SPINNER & CO., London and Liverpool.

Messrs. Mayer and Co., of Munich, and 149, New Bond-street, London, solicit a visit to their showrooms, where they have always on view stained-glass windows and other objects of ecclesiastical art, executed for almost any part of the kingdom. Messrs. Mayer and Co. will have great pleasure in submitting designs and estimates for any window in contemplation, free of all charge.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. Filters profes-ing to remove lime effectually are fallacy, as no filter yet invented will do so permanently, and all filters in which sponge is introduced are on the old system, for using which with the idea of removing organic matter (that usually productive of disease) the public were cautioned against, as being of no avail, in the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council; and this caution is the more necessary as these filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY PATENTED FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest animal charcoal, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification" Price 6d.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Feb. 7 was—medical 1,043, surgical 654; total 1,697, of which 756 were new cases.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 5, at Woodstone Rectory, Peterborough, the wife of the Rev. REGINALD THOMPSON, of a daughter.

Feb. 5, at St. Paul's Vicarage, Dorking, the wife of the Rev. H. C. STURDY, M.A., Vicar, of a daughter.

Feb. 6, at The Precincts, Rochester, the wife of the Rev. ARTHUR THORNDIKE (Minor Canon), of a son.

Feb. 7, at 7, Richmond-terrace, Whitehall, the Countess of ONSLOW, of a daughter.

Feb 8, at Papworth Everard Rectory, Cambs, the wife of the Rev. E. DALE GALLOWAY, of a daughter.

Feb. 8, at 3, Norfolk-street, Lady BLANCHE EDWARDES, of a son.

Feb. 8, at 5, Randolph Cliff, Edinburgh, Lady SIMPSON, of a son.

Feb. 9, at Archerfield House, Highbury New-park, the wife of the Rev. E. A. STUART, Vicar of St. James's, Holloway, of a son.

Feb. 9, at 7, Pembridge-villas, Southfields, Wandsworth, the wife of the Rev. WILLIAM REED, M.A., Vicar of Wandsworth, of a darghter.

Feb. 10, at St. Leonard's, Sherfield, near Basingstoke, the wife of the Rev. ALFRED GRESLEY BARKER, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Feb 5, at St. James's, Wardleworth, the Rev. CHARLES KEW, B.A., Curate of St. James's, Rochdale, to HARRIETT ELIZABETH, daughter of the late THOMAS SHAW, Esq., Townhead, Rochdale.

Feb. 5, at Knowle, Warwickshire, JAMES NOBLE, son of the late EDWARD BOWER, Esq., of Knowle Lodge, to GERTRUDE LUCY, daughter of the Rev. JOHN HOWE, Hon. Canon of Worcester and Vicar of Knowle.

Feb. 7, at the parish church of St. Oswald, Chester, the Rev. SAMUEL WIMBUSH, Rector of Terrington, Yorkshire, to MARY ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late Rev. JAMES HARRIS, Head Master of the King's School, Chester.

Feb. 7, at St. Peter's, Cranley-gardens, ROBERT SEYMOUR, son of the late Mr. JOHN VANDELEUR and Lady HELEN STEWART, of Rock Hill, county Donegal, to FRANCES LUCIA, only daughter of Colonel O'HANLON, late Bengal Cavalry.

Feb. 7, CONWAY HIGGINSON, Esq., R.A., son of Sir James Higginson, K.C.B., to AGNES ISABELLA, eldest daughter of Lord and Lady CASTLEMAINE.

Feb. 10, at St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands, the Rev. JOHN MILES MOSS, to MARY ETHEL HARDWICK, eldest daughter of the late Charles Arthur Hardwick, Esq., of St. Helens (formerly of Leeds).

DEATHS.

Feb. 2, at Rochester, LUCY, fourth daughter of the Rev. Sir JOHN FAGGE, sixth Baronet, in her 82nd year.

Feb. 5, at Bletsoe Rectory, GEOFFREY, infant son of the Rev. F. H. BOLINGBROKE, aged five months.

Feb. 5, at Clevedon, Somerset, MARTHA, widow of the Rev. JOHN BLOSSETT ORMSBY, A.M., Rector of Templemore, Ireland, and daughter of the late Rev. Richard Grier, D.D., of Middleton, County Cork, in the 80th year of her age.

Feb. 7, at Sylfield House, Cambridge, THOMAS HENRY MAURICE, infant son of the Rev. HENRY FULFORD, aged nine weeks.

Feb. 7, at Dawlish, FRANCES DOROTHY, widow of the late Rev. VILLIERS HENRY PLANTAGENET SOMERSET, Rector of Honiton, aged 74.

Feb. 8, at Pitminster Vicarage, Taunton, MARY FREDERICA, wife of the Rev. FREDERIC S. P. SEALE, Vicar aged 44 years.

Feb. 9, at West Malling Parsonage, ANN VINTEN, for forty years nurse in the family of the Rev. J. H. Timins, Vicar of West Malling, Kent, aged 70.

Feb. 10, at 41, Seymour-street, RACHAEL EMILY, widow of the late Sir JOHN GEORGE SHAW-LEFEVRE, K.C.B., in her 83rd year.

LATEST NEWS.

Souakim, Feb. 13.

A spy has arrived here from Hesheem, where a rebel force is encamped. He brought some articles of clothing bearing marks of spear thrusts, which had evidently belonged to the eight Hussars, who were missed on the 3rd inst., during the reconnaisance to Handoub.

Small parties of rebels have reappeared in the neighbourhood during yesterday and to-day.

Paris, Feb. 13.

The Minister of War has received the following telegram from General Brière de l'Isle dated yesterday :—"Our march was effected without noteworthy incident. The enemy abandoned their fortified works in the gorges, and we arrived at ten o'clock on the morning of the 11th at the dividing ridge. We descended into the valley, and shortly afterwards encountered the Chinese, who were in strong force, and compelled us to fight our way from one rocky height to another until nightfall. We are now at a distance of sixteen kilomètres from Langson, which we shall probably reach to-morrow."

Rome, Feb. 13.

Father Nicola Pagani, of the Society of Jesus, Pro-Vicar of the Ecclesiastical Province of Mangalore, in the Madras Presidency, has been appointed Vicar Apostolic, with Episcopal privileges, to the same district.

Madrid, Feb. 13.

A telegram received from Jaen reports that a shock of earthquake was felt yesterday at Torre del Campo. The church, hospital, and one house sustained serious damage, but there were no casualties among the inhabitants.

Lord Wolseley forwarded to the Secretary of State for War at 10.15 p.m. on Thursday the following telegram, which he had received from General Brackenbury :—

"Kirbekan, Feb. 11.—Following is translation of a document found to-day by a private soldier of Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in a donkey's saddle-bag, about four hundred yards behind the position we captured yesterday :—

"'A copy of a letter received from the Governor-General of Berber to the governors of the section :—

"'In the name of God, &c.—From Mahommed Kheir Abdullah Khoy Fali, Emir General of Berber, to his friend Abdul Magid Abi El Lekalek and all men.—I inform you that to-day, after the midday prayer, we received a letter from the faithful Khalifa Abdullah Eben Mahommed, in which he tells us that Khartoum was taken on Monday, the 9th Rabi, 1302, on the side of El Haoui, in the following manner :—The Mahdi prayed upon his dervishes and his troops to advance against the fortifications, and entered Khartoum in a quarter of an hour. They killed the traitor Gordon and captured the steamers and boats. God has made him glorious. Be grateful, and thank and praise God for His unspeakable mercy. I announce it to you. Tell your troops.'

"The document is dated the 13th Rabi, &c. On it is written, 'Received Friday, 20th Rabi.'

"Shall continue my advance to-morrow.

"The 9th Rabi is the 26th January."

The following telegram from Lord Wolseley, which it will be seen, was despatched thirteen hours before the message given above, was published on Thursday :—

"Korti, 12th February, 1885, 9.5 a.m.—Up to date have no reliable particulars about Gordon's fate. Press reports are based on rumours gathered by Wilson's party when descending Nile from Omdurman to Gubat. The Mudir and all the natives persist that Khartoum has not fallen, but Wilson is positive, and there can be no doubt on the point. Hope in a few days to have back messengers sent to ascertain facts."

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed Acrostic Editor, *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 11.
(Thirty-sixth Quarter.)

1. F abri C
2. E noug H
3. R oss I
4. R easo N
5. Y e A

Answers have been received from Asphodel, Hadji, Feliz, Norvb, Sociable, Peewit, Sleepy, Zenobia, Hampton Courtier, Work, Etak, Pegasus, Dunstan, M.A.E.B., Acme, L.E.L., Pansy, Paddy, Conjecture, Pandora, Zyx, Seedy, Noremac, Sarnia, Burleigh, Iris, and Persevere.

Light 3.—Murdered in Rome, 1848.
Light 4.—*Midsummer Night's Dream*, Act 3, Scene 1.
Light 5.—*Love's Labour's Lost*, Act 1, Scene 1.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 13.
(Thirty-sixth Quarter.)

Prorm.

The old familiar dials will be few :
How ancient method changeth into new !

1.

What very few good-humor'dly can stand :
The farmer least of any in the land.

2.

Of Buddhists, in Tibet supremest head ;
Entre nous, besides, a well-known quadruped.

3.

Athletic games or ancient Grecian sport,
No *s* Thespian lovers' favourite resort.

4.

Composer of four epic poems, he
Author of blacking new was said to be.

5.

From Babylon full nine-and-twenty Cyrus brought
To Jewish capital ; so Biblic writers taught.

BRUSSELS SPROUT.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged to take place between Commodore James E. Erskine, R.N., commandant of H.M.S. *Nelson* and the Australian station, and Miss Constable, niece of Dr. Barry, Primate of Australia, with whom Miss Constable has been staying during a visit to Sydney.

Also between C. E. D. Morgan Richardson, Esq., of Noyadd Wilyn, Cardiganshire, and Miss Evelyn Brownrigg, second daughter of Sir Harry Brownrigg, Bart., of White Waltham, Berkshire.

Also between Mr. Walter F. Forbes, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Forbes, and the Hon. Katharine Lawley, youngest sister of Lord Wenlock.

Also between Mr. Arthur Hardy Wood, of Froyle Park, Hants, the master of the H.H. foxhounds, and Mrs. Marx, widow of the late Captain Marx, of Arlebury, Hants, and daughter of the late Mrs. Jervoise, of Herriard Park, Hants.

On Wednesday, in St. Mary's Church, Newtownforbes, co. Longford, was solemnised the marriage of Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew (5th Dragoon Guards), of Mount Bellew, co. Galway, with the Lady Sophia Forbes, second daughter of the Earl of Granard. Among the relatives and friends present on the occasion were the Countess of Granard and Ladies Eva and Margaret Forbes, Lord and Lady Maurice FitzGerald, Lady Laura Grattan, Lady Bellew, Hon. Mrs. Forbes, Hon. Mrs. Dean Morgan, Sir Frederick FitzWygram, the Dean of Ardagh, Lieutenant-Colonel Davys, Captain Thackeray, Captain Musters, R.N., the Rev. M. Gilligan, the Rev. George Peyton and Miss Peyton, Mrs. and Miss Grattan-Bellew, Mrs. and Miss Langdale, Miss Gonne Bell, Mr. E. Dease, Miss Skene, Mr. and Mrs. White of Cleone, Mr. and Mrs. Prosser and Miss Prosser, Mr. and Mrs. Peyton, &c. Captain C. C. Shaw, a brother officer of the bridegroom, who was to have acted as best man, was called away at the last moment to do duty with his regiment. The bride, who was led to the altar by her father, was attired in white Duchesse satin, trimmed with Brussels lace and sprays of orange blossoms, lilies of the valley, and shamrock ; a few of the same flowers in her hair were covered by a Brussels lace veil, fastened by a diamond star, the gift of Elizabeth Countess of Harrington. Her other jewels included a set of diamond stars, the gift of Mrs. Grattan-Bellew ; a diamond pendant, the gift of Sir Frederick and Lady FitzWygram ; diamond crescent, from the Hon. Mrs. Dean Morgan ; diamond and pearl bracelet, from the Duke and Duchess of Bedford ; and a pearl bracelet, from Mr. and Mrs. Langdale. The four bridesmaids in attendance on the bride wore costumes of pale blue plush, with toques of the same, and had gold bangles, set with pearl and sapphire bees, the bridegroom's gift. The bridegroom was in the full uniform of his regiment. The Countess of Granard wore an elegant dress of grey plush and brocade, with bonnet *en suite*. The Lord Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois performed the marriage rite, assisted by the Rev. J. O'Reilly, the Rev. J. O'Farrell, the Rev. P. Green, and the Rev. J. Atkinson, the Earl of Granard giving away his daughter. After breakfasting with the Earl and Countess of Granard and their friends at Castle Forbes, the newly-wedded couple took their departure for Johnstown Castle, the seat of Lord and Lady Maurice Fitzgerald (brother-in-law and sister of the bride), where they pass the honeymoon. The bride's *costume de voyage* was composed of dark green plush, with toque and muff to match. The wedding presents were costly and numerous.

Mr. Robert Phayre, of the Bengal Civil Service, son of General Sir Robert Phayre, K.C.B., was married to Miss Edith Margary, daughter of the late Major-General Margary, R.E., on the 5th inst., at Christ Church, Weston-super-Mare. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. T. Layard and the Rev. C. C. Layard, uncles of the bride, and the vicar, the Rev. Colin Campbell. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Mason, R.E., as best man. The bride was conducted up the church by her brother, Mr. Arthur Margary, and was given away by her mother. She wore a bodice and train of ivory silk Sicilienne over a petticoat of broché velvet ; Honiton lace veil and wreath of orange blossoms. Her ornaments were a pearl necklace and gold bracelets, one the gift of her uncle, Major Margary, and the other, which was set with pearls, the gift of Sir Arthur Phayre. She carried a magnificent bouquet, the gift of the bridegroom. The eight bridesmaids, her sisters, were dressed in crême cashmere, draped over skirts of lace and satin ribbon. Their hats were of crême lace, turned up with ruby velvet and crême aigrettes. They each wore a gold bracelet, the bridegroom's gift. The chancel was artistically decorated with flowers. Amongst the guests were the Earl and Countess of Cavan, Mr. P. J. Margary, Rev. J. T. Layard, Mr. and Mrs. Somes, General Hunter Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Thompson, Colonel Layard, Miss Layard, Mrs. Trist, Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Layard, Captain and Mrs. Battiscombe, Mr. Mason, Mr. A. Layard, Mr. Alex. Young, Miss N. Layard, Mrs. Litchford, Mrs. H. Somes, &c. The bride's travelling dress was dark electric-blue cashmere, draped over a skirt of plush of the same shade, with Gainsborough hat ; jacket and muff *en suite*. They left early in the afternoon, *en route* for Rome.

On Saturday morning, at St. Peter's, Cranley-gardens, the marriage of Mr. R. Seymour Stewart, son of the late Mr. and Lady Helen Stewart, with the only daughter of Colonel O'Hanlon, late of the Bengal Cavalry, was solemnised quietly, the Rev. Hugh William Johnston, rector of North Cray, Kent, officiating. The bride, who was not attended by any bridesmaids, in the absence, through indisposition, of her father, was given away by Field-Marshal Sir Patrick Grant, wore a travelling dress of brown velvet trimmed with otter, and with bonnet to match, with crimson aigrette. Among those present at the church were Lady Mary Stewart, Sir Charles and Mrs. Stewart, General and Mrs. Stewart, and others. The newly-married pair drove from the church door direct to the railway station, *en route* to Bournemouth.

The Queen has sent a telegram to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland expressing her deep regret at the death of Cardinal M'Cabe. His Excellency has forwarded the telegram to the Assistant Bishop.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH.

Tuesday was the seven hundredth anniversary of the consecration of the Temple Church, and the occasion was commemorated by a choral service and a recital on the Temple organ. There are few buildings that can point to such a history as this famous Gothic round church, although there are three other round churches in the kingdom which are associated with the Knights Templars. St. Sepulchre's at Cambridge, St. Sepulchre's at Northampton, and the church at Little Maplestead, in Essex, are all perfect examples of this class of building ; and these are probably the survivors of many others dating from a period before the pointed arch wholly superseded the semicircular. That the 10th of February, 1185, was the date of the consecration of the church is placed beyond dispute by an inscription over the little door next to the cloisters, which was broken up by workmen about 1695. It was in Latin but in old Saxon capitals, engraved within a half-circle, and ran :—"On the 10th of February, in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord, 1185, this Church was consecrated in honour of the Blessed Mary by the Lord Heraclius, by the grace of God Patriarch of the Church of the Resurrection, who to those yearly visiting it hath indulged sixty days of penance enjoined them." Its erection could not have been very long prior to this event, for we know that the Knights Templars first established themselves into England in the Old Temple, which occupied the site of the present Southampton-buildings, and it was certainly not long before 1185 that they moved into the convent, built on a site extending from the White Friars westward to Essex House without Temple Bar. This is called the New Temple, to distinguish it from their original residence. Very clear evidence of the antiquity of the structure was found at the time of the restoration, when at the east-end of the circular church broad and substantial foundations of rubble were discovered. These still remain beneath the present pavement. It was conjectured from the want of correspondence between these and the chancel that they indicate the existence of an earlier one. Foundations were, moreover, at the same time traced for a distance of more than fifty feet eastward of the chancel arch, a fact which is of singular interest, since it points to the possibility that a building still more ancient than the round church once stood here. But of this nothing is known.

The early history of the Temple Church forms a part of that of the Order of Knights Templars, or, as they styled themselves, the "Order of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Jesus Christ and of the Temple of Solomon." This, together with that of the rival Order of Knights Hospitallers, who had established themselves in London at the Priory of Clerkenwell, is too well known to need recapitulation. It may, however, be mentioned that Heraclius, who had come over to England to solicit Henry II. to undertake a new Crusade, about the same time consecrated the Church of the Hospitallers. It was at Clerkenwell, too, that Parliament met to consider the proposals of the Patriarch. The refusal of Henry II. to leave his kingdom, and his consequent denunciation by Heraclius, is one of the most familiar episodes in English history. But the date of the Patriarch's visit is chiefly memorable as marking an epoch in the establishment of these famous Orders in this country. Besides their church, with its circular colonnade and tesselated pavement, noble arches, fine lancet windows, and groined ceiling, the Templars built residences for the Master, Knights, Chaplains, and serving brethren. They had a refectory and a chapter-house, and gardens on the banks of the river. Here they lived in accordance with the quaint rules drawn up for their guidance by St. Bernard, the first Abbot of Clairvaux, which enjoined most severe and constant devotion and austerity. The brethren dined together in the refectory, while two in general lived together, the better to secure the observance of the regulations. The Knights were required to wear white and esquires black garments, and neither were allowed to make any display, or to accept gifts, or join in sports without the leave of the Master ; and although there might be married Brothers, they were under certain disabilities. We cannot follow here the history of the Order and their achievements. Their connection with the Temple Church is, however, very forcibly preserved in the tombs, about which, however, solittle is known. The mail-clad effigies on the pavement in the circular church are not those of Knights Templars, but of "Associates of the Temple," who were only partially admitted to the privileges of the Order.

Among the figures of armed Knights in the Round Walk, one represents Geoffrey de Magnaville, who was created Earl of Essex in 1148. He fought against King Stephen, sacked Cambridge, and plundered Ramsey Abbey ; and it is said that the Templars, not daring to bury him, soldered him up in lead, and hung the body in their orchard until it was absolved, when they buried it. But most of the effigies, whether straight or cross-legged, are anonymous. A lid of a sarcophagus, which is to be seen between two figures on the north-east of the "Round" is believed to be that of a Master of the Templars, since the head of the cross which embellishes it is decorated with a lion's head, and the foot rests on the head of a lamb, the emblems of the Order. William Marshall, Protector of England during the minority of King Henry III., is identified in a figure remarkable for handsome features and chain mail. An effigy of one who was a Crusader with Richard Cœur de Lion, and afterwards a vicegerent of the kingdom, who was equally famous as a warrior and a statesman, who urged King John to sign Magna Charta, and defeated the French on land and sea ; and whom Shakespeare has immortalised as the interceder for Prince Arthur does not call for comment. Among the conjectural identifications are William, Earl of Pembroke, and his sons William and Gilbert, also Earls of Pembroke, and Robert, Earl de Ros, a praying effigy, who was clearly not a Templar, since he has no beard and wears flowing hair, contrary to the rules of the Order. The church abounds with stone coffins, some of which were unearthed during its restoration, and reinterred. Among other notables known to have been buried here was William Plantagenet, fifth son of Henry III. That King and his Queen Eleanor both chose this as their place of sepulture ; but if so their wishes were not carried out. Coming down to later times, there are monuments innumerable, many of which have been treated with scanty ceremony. Very interesting, too, are the stained windows, many of which are very ancient.

Some confusion has resulted from a record made by Matthew Paris, a contemporary chronicler, to the effect that the church was again consecrated in 1240 ; but it is now generally believed that this must refer to the consecration of the square or chancel part of the church, probably the successor of a much earlier structure. From an architectural point of view the church is of singular value, as illustrating examples of semicircular intersecting and pointed arches, which were undoubtedly all constructed at one time. The hazardous experiment of placing such a weight of roof and vault upon pillars so slender has been abundantly justified by the fact that it has stood for seven hundred years. None of the pillars, it is true, are quite straight, so that they have to some extent, yielded to the load imposed upon them, while prior to the restoration of 1845 the exterior walls were inclined many inches outwards. When the plaster was removed from the pillars they were found to be of Purbeck marble, and originally polished ; but the marble had become corroded for nearly an inch in depth. These pillars were varnished at the restoration, when the whole building was renovated. The Temple organ dates from the time of Charles II. Judge Jefferies, who was a good musician, decided in favour of Father Smith, and against Renatus Harris. Father Smith's reputation was established, and he afterwards built the organs for St. Paul's and Durham Cathedrals, as well as for many other churches.

"MALA PER LONGAS CONVALUERE MORAS."

Too late, too late relief you sent,
Reckless as fiddling Nero ;
Of all the blood and treasure spent
The gross result is—zero.
Your name be "the *late* Government,"
Your motto—"Semper serò."

W. P. A.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE ENGLISH SPEAKING RACES.

A letter from Mr. Gladstone on the relations between England and America appeared in the *New York Tribune* of the 1st inst. It was addressed to Mr. Smalley in October last, and its publication until now had been withheld in order that the effervescence of the Presidential campaign should subside. The letter arose out of an incident in a conversation when Mr. Gladstone said that he "did not know that there is in any period a man whose public career and life were nobler, or more admirable, than Cobden's." Then, interrupting himself, Mr. Gladstone said :—"Of course I except Washington. Washington, to my mind, is the purest figure in history." In his letter, which is dated Oct. 4, 1884, Mr. Gladstone, referring to Washington, says that, without meaning any disparagement to the class of politicians, the men of his own craft and cloth, whom in his own land and his own experience he has found no less worthy than other men of love and admiration—if, among all the pedestals supplied by history for public character of extraordinary nobility and purity, he saw one higher than all the rest, and if he were required at a moment's notice to name the fittest occupant for it, he thinks his choice, at any time during the last forty-five years, would have lighted, and it would now light, upon Washington. Referring to the growth of the English-speaking peoples of the world, who it is variously estimated will in the course of the next hundred years have increased to about six hundred or a thousand millions, Mr. Gladstone says :—

"What a prospect is that of very many hundreds of millions of people, certainly among the most manful and energetic in the world, occupying one great continent—I may almost say two—and other islands and territories not easy to be counted, with these islands at their head, the most historic in the world—in contact, by a vast commerce, with all mankind, and perhaps still united in kindly political association with some more hundreds of millions fitted for no mean destiny : united almost absolutely in blood and language, and very largely in religion, laws, and institutions. If anticipations such as these are to be realised in any considerable degree, the prospect is at once majestic, inspiring, and consolatory. The subject is full of meaning and of power ; of so much meaning that the pupil of the eye requires time to let in such a flood of light. I shall not attempt, after thus sketching it, to expound it. It would be as absurd as if a box-keeper at a theatre, when letting in a party, should attempt to expound the piece. I hope that some person more competent and less engaged than myself will give this subject the study it deserves ; taking his stand on the facts of the last century, and the promise, *valeat quantum*, of the coming one. I cannot but think, as well as hope, that a good understanding in the future near and far, among English-speaking peoples, though it may not be matter of certainty, yet is beyond the necessity of going a begging, so to speak, for recommendations from any individual, earnestly and with my whole heart as I for one should recommend it. Clearly, if the English-speaking peoples shall then be anything like what we have now been supposing, and if there shall not be a good understanding among them, there will have been a base desertion of an easy duty, a *gran rifiuto*, such as might stir another Dante to denounce it, a renunciation of the noblest, the most beneficial, the most peaceful primacy over presented to the heart and understanding of man. On the other hand, great as it would be, it would demand no propaganda, no superlative ingenuity or effort ; it ought to be an orderly and natural growth, requiring only that you should be reasonably true and loyal to your traditions, and we to ours. To gain it will need no preterhuman strength or wisdom ; to miss it will require some portentous degeneracy."

Printed by E. D. Maddick and Co., 1, Crane Court, Fleet-street, and Published for the Proprietors by E. D. Maddick, at the Office, No. 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.—Saturday, February 14, 1885.